

Letters to the Editor

Joining the EEC . Small firms . Cash flow accounting

Sir.—Saying No to Europe at this stage is like calling off one's wedding the day before. The "Great Debate" has been going on for the last 20 years. In 1957 we did not take the opportunity of joining Europe. In 1962 under the Conservative Government and in 1967 under the Labour Government we applied to join and were turned down. Now finally in 1971 on our third application we have been accepted on acceptable terms to ourselves. Surely by now the country knows its own mind on this great issue. Surely we have the courage, the will and the Statesmanship to carry through our decision which we have been acting upon for ten years when we made our first application.

I believe the argument about the terms of entry is spurious in this instance. The terms are good and are accepted by the present Government and by the members of the last Labour Government. Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Stewart and Lord George-Brown who were responsible largely for our second application to join Europe. The latter at least gave the guts to stand by their beliefs and are statesmanlike in their convictions and integrity when others of their party deem it politically advantageous to agree with the trade unions.

In my strong opinion the present "Great Debate" should be a foregone conclusion—glorious affirmation of a decision made long ago—just as at a wedding. Don't let us go back on our decision now; the opportunity may never come again.

R. M. P. Green.
33a. Oakhill Road, Sheffield.

U.K. and common pool

Sir.—Mr. W. Grey (October 18) on the EEC raises great problems, though no one could challenge his main argument.

First of all by 1980, not in the early years, our commitments to the common pool may be great. An uncomfortable burden through no fault of our own.

Before the American 10 per cent. surcharge there was a possibility that we could re-orientate our trade away from the U.S. into the EEC and thereby save levies on food and dues on manufactured articles and much else. Let it be said here quite clearly that what is collected in levies and dues by each individual EEC country on imports from a country outside the EEC does not belong to it. They all go into a common pool and what comes out to each EEC member is by way of a percentage, fixed in advance, only alterable with difficulty.

Now Mr. Nixon has come to see no fun in providing Europe with a standing army and then watching arrangements being made to exclude his goods. Thus for the last 20 years, in 1957 we did not take the opportunity of joining Europe. In 1962 under the Conservative Government and in 1967 under the Labour Government we applied to join and were turned down. Now finally in 1971 on our third application we have been accepted on acceptable terms to ourselves. Surely by now the country knows its own mind on this great issue. Surely we have the courage, the will and the Statesmanship to carry through our decision which we have been acting upon for ten years when we made our first application.

What is the answer?

We cannot go back on Mr. Geoffrey Rippon's terms, but we can, as Germans do periodically, insist on our percentage out of the common pool being better related to what we put in; let me repeat, by way of levies on food and dues on other imports from countries outside the EEC.

There are, I know, some changes in our entry terms. I submit that something is better written into the terms now, as the agreement has become vitiated, if that is the right word, by the 10 per cent. surcharge, which has arrived on the scene.

Might I point out, before concluding, that the issue may turn out to be a fundamental one?

The U.S. has built up since the last war vast assets in Europe and she herself may not deem it wise to abandon their defence as she surveys her military commitments this side of the Atlantic. And we certainly would not wish to see ourselves deprived of her help and this help would go overnight if we began to treat her ungenerously in matters of trade.

James Tower.
Chairman, Ultrasonics.
Otley Road, Shipley, Yorks.

Gerald R. Guinness.
Chandos House, Chester Street, S.W.1.

Members not consulted

Sir.—It would seem that the Confederation of British Industry are not the only body who have been a little presumptuous in pledging the support of industry for entry into the European Economic Community. For although Mr. Hilary Eccles-Williams reports the backing of the Government, seeking changes in respect of a number of points, I would not accept that the recent statement on the views of the NFU Council to which Mr. Clark refers, in any way inhibits the NFU representations to the Government on behalf of the poultry industry.

The NFU Council "clearly

emphasised its concern about the it is here, and that the higher the enormous contribution made for income groups are far less taxed, to the economy by small firms in this country, will treat Mr. C. P. Morton's letter with the contempt it rightly deserves. The contribution made by small firms in terms of enterprise, development and in creating new sources of wealth and employment are quite out of proportion to their size.

W. D. Avery.
Chairman Poultry Committee, The National Farmers' Union, Agriculture House, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.

A disgruntled electorale

Sir.—Not only will the EEC face the prospect of getting a horse of a different colour, if there is a vote in favour of joining their ranks, as C. Gordon Tether so rightly points out, they will also find themselves facing the prospect of receiving the proverbial British horse. I refer to the one that can be brought to the water but that cannot be made to drink.

The British electorate are appalled at the undemocratic methods adopted by the Government, which involve not consulting them on this issue. In addition, the majority of the British public have the sheer common sense to realise that if two-year Parliamentary struggle follows the vote on the Common Market, Parliament simply will not have time to deal with the problems which the electorate want solved urgently.

Unemployment, inflation, more financial aid for the disabled and old age pensioners, more hospitals and nurses, more schools and teachers are but a few.

Rose L. Morris.
6, Kent Terrace, N.W.1.

EEC poultry regulations

Sir.—In your October 5 issue, you carried a letter from F. L. Clark, Managing Director of Arnewood Turkeys, drawing attention to the EEC poultry regulations. He shares the concern of the National Farmers' Union that if the present and proposed EEC poultry regulations are applied here without amendment the effect on the home industry could be very serious. The NFU has made strong representations to the Government, seeking changes in respect of a number of points.

I think the greatest trouble has been that neither the pro-marketeers nor the anti-marketeers can possibly make a proper decision by all the different comparisons they make for this reason. They are not comparing like with like.

In my view the real reason for the slow growth in this country is the extremely left-wing tax system. The tax system in France, Germany and other countries is completely different and I think it is correct to say that estate duty over there on average is only a quarter of what

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Farming and Raw Materials

"Huge grain subsidies this year"

THE Government will have to pay huge subsidies to arable farmers this year, Mr. James Prior, Minister of Agriculture, said yesterday. But he denied the payout would reach £50m, as forecast by the corn merchants last month.

Mr. Prior was speaking at the opening of the British Sugar Corporation's new plant at Winstanley, Norfolk. He said the reason for the high repayment was the fall in prices the year before, and the record harvest of 14.5m. tons of corn. The biggest payout for grain subsidies was £73m. in 1962.

Mr. Prior said grain prices were now about £1 a ton for barley and £2.50 for wheat. "They are bound to go up month by month from now on," he said. "But if it had not been for the controls on minimum import prices we brought in this year, the prices of corn could have been down to £17 or £18 a ton, and the subsidy payments this year could well have destroyed the deficiency payments system." The income from import levies could be set against the high level of subsidy payments.

Drop in world grain trading forecast

DES MOINES, Oct. 20. WORLD grain trading is expected to drop by some 5m. tons in the current 1971-72 marketing year, with U.S. exports falling by that amount or more, assistant secretary of agriculture Clarence D. Palmby told the chamber of commerce here.

Mr. Palmby attributed the anticipated reduction to a decline in importing countries' requirements for imported grain, sharply increased competition from other exporting countries and the effects of the U.S. dock strike.

In 1970-71 the world grain market measured by total volume of exports by all countries, reached almost 100m. metric tons, the second largest on record.

Mr. Palmby said reduced import requirements were showing up mainly in Western Europe. On the export competition side he said combined EEC wheat and feedgrain exports could rise by as much as 5m. tons.

Copper production cutback suggested by mining chief

BY JOHN EDWARDS

FACE WITH the possibility of the 5% per cent annual cost president of St. Joe Minerals Corp., a large surplus supplies of copper growth rate, experienced during the past 20 years, the average production cost could be about 56 cents a pound 10 years from now. Theoretically, based on past experience, this would mean copper market prices of 96 cents a pound in 10 years time, but this would not necessarily be actual price in 1981 since there were many other influences apart from costs of output to take into consideration.

Zinc warning

Sir Ronald thought any successful agreement between the member countries of the Council of Copper Exporting Countries (Cipecc) would not come until 1976.

Reviewing the outlook until 1976, Sir Ronald said there was little doubt that there would be substantial mine capacity over likely demand in the years 1972 to 1976. Western world mine capacity would rise from 5.7m. tons in 1970, compared with the equivalent Chilean figures of 2.43 cents and 33.6 cents; Congo 33 and 33.7 cents; and Peru 22.4 and 21.3 cents. But costs, especially in Chile, had risen sharply this year again.

A warning that the U.S. would become increasingly dependent on foreign supplies of zinc to meet its domestic demand was delivered by another speaker at the forum, Mr. John C. Duncan, the extent of sales discounting.

On prices, Sir Ronald said at

the opening of the British Sugar Corporation's new plant at Winstanley, Norfolk. He said the reason for the high repayment was the fall in prices the year before, and the record harvest of 14.5m. tons of corn. The biggest payout for grain subsidies was £73m. in 1962.

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American News

Ten held in Trinidad emergency

By Our Own Correspondent

PORT OF SPAIN, Oct. 20. IN PEOPLE have been detained under emergency powers assumed by the Trinidad and Tobago Government. One

is the leader of last year's "Black Power" uprising, Eddie Granger, and another the president general of the largest trade union in the Commonwealth Caribbean, George Seeks of the oilfield workers. They were picked up by police yesterday after the Governor-General Sir Solomon Hochoy had signed the emergency

declaration on the advice of the Trinidad and Tobago Cabinet, headed by the new National Security Council. The general public did not know of the emergency, which had been declared for only one month, though being extended by Parliament, until Prime Minister

Eric Williams announced it on television and radio broadcast last night.

The present state of emergency is the second to be declared in this country within months. There was a state of emergency for seven months last year from April to November, following several weeks of political demonstrations, arson and social unrest.

Dr. Williams said the current emergency has been declared because of a serious threat to order, economic stability and the peace of mind and security of job tenure of the average citizen as exemplified recent industrial tension, civil abuse, violence, strikes, slows and union jurisdictional disputes.

The unrest culminated last week when workers on a £32m. sulphurization plant constructed in the oilfield assaulted an American manager and sacked his office.

Disenchantment with mutual funds continues

By Jurek Martin

NEW YORK, Oct. 20. FOR THE FOURTH time in the five months, U.S. investors month cashed in on considerably more mutual fund shares than they bought. The gap between redemptions and new sales was, in fact, the largest on record in September.

These statistics, issued by the Investment Company Institute covering about 90 per cent. of all U.S. mutual funds (unit trusts), are significant because they are generally considered a fair yardstick of the degree of interest on the part of the average investor in the equity markets. The results of the last two months point clearly to a marked level of disenchantment. In September, redemptions of mutual fund shares amounted to \$9.9m., while new sales only rose to \$804.5m. The \$166.4m. figure is the largest since the institute began tabulating the industry and the value of new sales is the lowest since May last year, when the stock market was in the depths of the bear market.

Since May, sales of mutual funds have exceeded redemptions only once—in August, when there was a brief market flurry in the wake of Nixon's economic moves.

Mexican move to expand

By Our Own Correspondent

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 20. MARGARIN has said that the slowdown in the Mexican economy is now over and that government expenditure will rise by 20 per cent. in 1972.

Mr. Margarín also announced that a 25 per cent. ad valorem port tax on silver was to be reduced because of the continuing fall in world silver prices. Mexico is one of the largest importers of silver in the world. Government spending, which has fallen by about 10 per cent. a year, will next year include massive low-cost housing projects in Mexico City.

AP

Kennedy call to unite Ireland

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.

Senators Edward Kennedy and Abraham Ribicoff called for an immediate withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland and establishment of a United Ireland. Senator Kennedy's announcement said a similar resolution was being introduced in the House of Representatives by Mr. Hugh O'Conor, a Democrat for New York.

We believe that the results are the only realistic and to end the killing in Northern Ireland, and to bring peace to a land that has given much to America, a land that has done so much to enrich the history of our own nation," Senator Kennedy said. "The conscience of America cannot keep silent when men and women of land are dying," he said. "Britain has lost its way, and innocent people of Northern Ireland are the ones who now suffer."

The time has come for Americans of every faith and persuasion to speak

Nixon seeks more powers on international air fares

By GUY DE JONQUIERES

THE NIXON Administration is seeking an enlargement of Government authority to regulate international air fares, but it is sovereign nation and it is undecided over how far any new U.S. regulation of rates will be accepted without question."

The most outspoken advocate of an enlarged Government role is Mr. Secor Browne, chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, who urged Congress yesterday to give his agency the power to unilaterally determine international fares.

A much more cautious position

is being taken by the State Department, however. Mr. Bert Rein, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, opposed Mr. Browne's proposal on the grounds that other governments would resist fares "dictated" by the U.S.

Mr. Rein said he favored increasing the CAB's authority, but only so as to permit it to restrain air lines from trying to damage competitors by charging rates that were either excessively high or excessively low.

The responsibility for setting fares should lie with the air lines in the first instance, he indicated, adding: "Every international air fare involves another realistic to believe that unilateral authority should extend."

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Export News

IN BRIEF

Third World loans yield £14m. orders

BRITISH companies received £14m. worth of orders from developing countries during August and September as the result of loans made by the Overseas Development Administration. Main orders came from Indonesia, Singapore, Turkey, India, Mauritius and the Gambia.

* Ashmore, Benson, Pease and Co., of Stockton, Teesside (a Davy-Ashmore company) has just concluded an agreement with Swindell-Dressler Company of Pittsburgh, U.S. (a division of Pullman Incorporated), under which Swindell-Dressler will make available to Ashmores technical data, designs and know-how relating to ultra high power electric arc steelmaking furnaces. Under the agreement Ashmores will be able to market arc furnaces of this type in the U.K. and many other countries.

The electric arc furnace is claimed to be the cheapest and fastest way of making and melting straight carbon steels and by 1982 it is estimated that the world production of steel made in electric arc furnaces—now about 80m. tons a year—will double.

The Swindell-Dressler design offers the flexibility of being able to melt pre-reduced iron pellets as well as steel and steel scrap, thus shortening the iron-to-steel process route and helping to reduce total initial plant investment.

* Racal Antennas, of Bracknell, Berks, has been granted exclusive marketing rights outside Britain for the range of antennae made by the Panorama Radio Company, London. Racal will also act as an agent in the U.K.

An order worth nearly £250,000 has been won by the radio communications division of Redifon Telecommunications (a member company of the Redifon Organisation) for the supply of radio communications equipment to 19 airports in Nigeria, including the International air ports at Ikeja (Lagos) and Kano.

The equipment is to be supplied as part of Nigeria's N£13m. four-year development plan for the expansion of its airports and the modernisation of its runways and landing equipment so as to allow the use of more advanced aircraft in Nigeria's air services.

THE FAR EAST—JAPAN

U.K. steps up promotions as store sales boom

BY CHARLES SMITH, FAR EAST CORRESPONDENT

ALTHOUGH the winding up of Henry VIII. But they can still try to choose between, say, an Italian or a British exhibit.

A further reason for the success of the whole operation seems to be the growing willingness of museum proprietors and private owners in Britain to allow their treasures to make the long journey to Japan.

Despite the flood of department store promotions British exports to Japan continue to show a very modest rise compared with the steep climb in Japanese exports to Britain. During the first seven months of the year Britain earned 8.8 per cent more from the Japanese market than in the same period of 1970 while Japan pushed up its own export earnings by 54 per cent.

The promotions will include appearances by the pipe band of the Irish Guards in over 20 branches of the Isetan store group throughout Japan. There will also be an exhibition of "historic British dolls" in Daimaru, the biggest store in Osaka, and demonstrations by Wedgwood potters in the Daimaru and Mitsuhashi chains of stores.

Stocking up

The "World of Henry VIII" which was opened last week by Prince Hitachi, the younger son of Emperor Hirohito, is basically an exhibition of 16th century objets d'arts (the exhibits, all of them brought from the U.K., are estimated to be worth around £1.5m.).

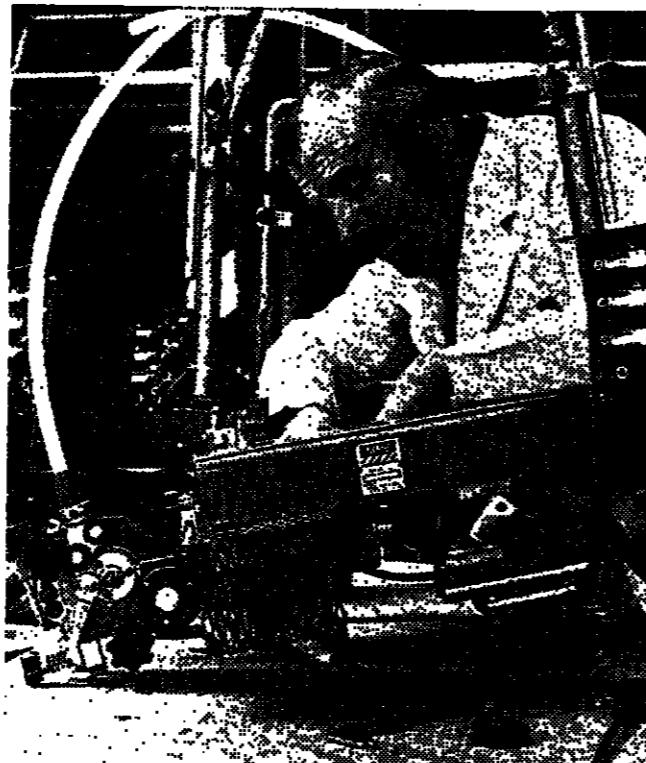
However, Mitsuhashi has used the occasion to stock up with about £750,000 worth of British consumer goods in addition to its normal range. There is a mock Fortune and Masons on the ground floor of the store, while one of the upper floors has been turned over entirely to "stallholders" specialising in individual products.

Government grant

The entire exhibition is due to be transferred later to the Mitsuhashi branches in Nagoya, Osaka and Sapporo, in each case with additional special purchases of British consumer goods.

The reason for the store promotion flurry of activity is partly that consumer sales generally are booming in Japan, and the department stores in Tokyo and other major cities handle a much larger portion of total sales than would be the case in most western countries.

Another fact is that U.K. Government grants to the stores mounting the displays have become more readily available than was expected to be the case early this year. The grants are relatively small, usually less than 5 per cent of the total cost of a display such as the "World of



Final inspection of a mini-welding head at the Murex Positioning Equipment factory at Knowsley, near Liverpool. The company, part of the British Oxygen Company's welding products division, has recently moved to the Knowsley site, where it will be close to the Liverpool docks, through which most of its overseas sales are despatched. The MPE plant houses the design, production and marketing operations under one roof. The mini-welding heads are suitable for submerged arc, Fasare and MIG welding processes. Some 50 per cent of production is exported.

With lots of love from HMG

THE Department of Trade and Industry is again sponsoring its "Greetings and a Gift to follow" scheme. This scheme, which has proved increasingly popular since its introduction in 1967, enables companies and businessmen to send copies of "Britain 1972" to their overseas business friends and associates.

"Britain 1972," an official handbook prepared by the Central Office of Information and published by HMSO, is an annual on Britain, her economy and institutions.

The handbook—528 pages and illustrated with pictures, maps and diagrams—has built up a world-wide reputation as a source of reference.

A total of 10 British trade missions are scheduled to visit Japan in 1972 (some being carryovers from 1971 when the winding-up of the BNEC forced postponements and cancellations).

On receipt of the completed order form, HMSO will send to the donor attractive greetings cards and envelopes for sending to his overseas customers and associates. On publication, "Britain 1972" will be sent direct by HMSO to each overseas customer on behalf of the sender together with a compliment slip showing the sender's name.

The cost of "Britain 1972" including the gift card and overseas postage is £2.

Pie in the sky

IN THE last six weeks export orders valued in total at just over £1.25m. for aircraft galley equipment, serving trolleys and bar trolleys have been awarded to C. F. Taylor (Metal Workers), of Wokingham, claimed to be Europe's largest manufacturer of aircraft galley equipment and a member of the Aircraft Equipment Division of the Glasgow-based Weir Group.

The latest and largest of these orders is for aircraft galley equipment valued at just over £700,000 for 28 Boeing 737 aircraft being supplied to Iberia, Spain's national airline. Iberia have ordered 116 galley, four to each aircraft, and delivery of the first complete aircraft set is scheduled for early next year.

Some of the equipment, such as bar trolleys, serving trolleys and meal boxes, will be manufactured in Spain at a C. F. Taylor factory at Torrejón de Ardoz, near Madrid.

The other recent contracts, amounting to £550,000 are from Malaysia, Singapore Airlines, Malaysia Air Lines, Air Manila, Air Pacific, Sadia, Pan International, South African Airways and Tarom.

When these orders are complete Taylor will have supplied

galley equipment for the entire range of Boeing passenger aircraft. In addition, the company has recently been appointed the approved galley manufacturer to the Fokker Aircraft Company of Amsterdam.

DEALING WITH EASTERN EUROPE—1

Advertising—a vital way of creating momentum

THE East European Trade Council's booklet entitled "Publicity in Eastern Europe" is to be published shortly. It is the first of its kind to give emphasis to advertising in this market. As such, it represents a departure from the former establishment view that advertising in Eastern Europe is of little value, certainly not as valuable as in the West.

The thesis has always been that in selling to a planned economy country, the British exporter is addressing himself to a handful of buyers, mainly in the Foreign Trade Enterprises and institutions.

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Part of the reason for the disparity appears to have been that the U.K. has been less active recently in promoting sales of industrial and scientific equipment in Japan than in the consumer sector.

However, there are signs that this omission may be made good. The U.K. will be represented at the Nagoya Air exhibition this autumn. Next February there will be an exhibition of British medical equipment at the Tokyo Science Museum to be accompanied by a medical symposium featuring six British and six Japanese lecturers.

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While personal contact must still remain the cornerstone of any export drive, publicity is now seen to be an essential tool, very much as in the West. For if the Foreign Trade Enterprises continue to be crucial for the most part, in the process of getting an order, other organisations are important too. In particular, factories and end users such as hospitals, universities and research establishments can contribute to a decision to buy. To reach this broader spectrum of decision makers, personal visits do not suffice and the more sweeping approach afforded by advertising must clearly be effective.

In Hungary, for example, where decentralisation of authority is a basic tenet of 1968 Economic Reforms, many manufacturing complexes have, in any event, the right to deal direct with the West. In Romania, the new Industrial Centres are being given greater authority at the manufacturing level. In other countries as well, the trend is toward decentralisation, though in some countries like the Soviet Union, this may be slow.

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European News

Poll reveals 50% of West Germans favour neutrality

BY MALCOLM RUTHERFORD

BONN, Oct. 20.

U.K. envoy and Danish PM review surcharge

By Our Own Correspondent

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 20. ITALY is expected to adopt a vote of regret, mixed with understanding, towards the Danish government's shock proposal for temporary 10 per cent import surcharge, according to informed sources here. However, the U.K. expected to ask the Danes to abolish the surcharge as soon as possible.

It is understood that this was a trend of remarks made to the Danish Prime Minister, Mr. J. O. Krag, by the British Ambassador, Mr. Andrew Stark, this morning. The Ambassador made a courtesy call on Mr. Krag, which was arranged before the Government's measure was known.

Mr. Krag may get rougher treatment when he visits Stockholm at the end of next week, as the Swedes, with a business recession on their hands, are seriously disturbed by the Danish measure, which affects 10 per cent of their total exports. The Swedish Parliament, meanwhile, is expected to vote on the import surcharge proposal late to-night or early to-morrow morning. The committee stage of work on the proposal dragged out to-day and its start of debate was postponed until 8 o'clock this evening.

The Social Democratic minority Government can count a majority of one with the support of 72 seats controlled by Social Democrats and 17 members of the Socialist People's Party, a total of 89. The Opposition parties have 88 seats, but though in this situation there always a risk of Parliamentary併存, most observers doubt whether the opposition will try seriously to bring down the government only a month after the general election.

Spain curbs peseta speculation

MADRID, Oct. 20.

THE Spanish Government to-day abandoned interest on convertible peseta accounts held less than three months in an apparent move to head off speculation by private banks. The clampdown came after yesterday's surprise announcement of a new exchange rate with the dollar that amounted to a valuation of the peseta upward of 2 per cent. Other foreign currencies fell slightly to-day in the aftermath of the new rate. An order effective to-day required banks to match with a deposit in the Bank of Spain any money transferred into peseta counts and later exchanged within three months. In addition, an order from the Finance Ministry said no interest would be paid if the account were held for less than three months.

Italy decides to delay start of VAT

ROME, Oct. 20.

The Italian Government decided to-day to seek a delay of six months in the application of a value-added tax (VAT) in Italy.

The decision was taken at a meeting between Premier Colombo and the Ministers of the Treasury, the Budget, Central Bank, Governor of the Bank of Italy, and other high officials. The EEC had insisted that Italy, the last member to join the VAT system, do so by January 4, and the Italian Parliament passed the necessary laws less than two weeks ago.

The Government's decision was announced by Finance Minister Gatti, who told newsmen after the voting that only the Government planned to introduce a law permitting the delay. He did not indicate whether the EEC had approved the delay, or whether Italy had conferred with the EEC in the matter.

Editorial comment Page 22

EEC summit may be in Paris

BY REGINALD DALE, COMMON MARKET CORRESPONDENT

LUXEMBOURG, Oct. 20.

THE Common Market summit conference between the Six, the K. and the other three candidates for Community membership, will almost certainly be held in Paris next spring, if present plans are followed through.

The first concrete preparations for the summit are to take place in Rome on November 6, when the Foreign Ministers of the 10 nations meet for discussions in a framework of the Community's plans for foreign policy coordination.

Britain is expected to be represented in Rome by Sir Alec Douglas-Home, although it is not clear that Mr. Geoffrey Phipps, the U.K.'s Common Market negotiator, will be there. On the day before, following the procedure established last year, the Six will meet separately to consolidate their positions on foreign affairs. Apart from preparing for the April, May or even June.

summit, the Foreign Ministers are expected to discuss the Middle East and East-West relations at their Rome meeting. There will probably be unofficial contacts on the procedure for signing the Treaty of Accession to the Community, now set for Brussels in December, but the exact date for the ceremony is likely to be formally fixed a few days later in the course of Ministerial meetings in Brussels on November 6 and 7.

No hurry

The British view is that the accession treaty must be signed before a 10 nation summit can take place. Germany has suggested February or March. The U.K. would like to discuss the whole question of the enlarged Community's attitude to the Benelux countries and the outside world, as well as its internal institutional machinery. Mr. Heath has also publicly hinted that military and defence policies might well be discussed at the same time.

DUBLIN DEBATES THE NORTH

Pressures build up on 'Honest Jack'

BY DOMINICK J. COYLE

DUBLIN, Oct. 20.

AN IMPORTANT element in Whitehall's calculations on Lynch and many of his senior advisers is beginning to doubt the effectiveness of their own policies in trying to persuade Mr. Jack Lynch, the Irish Prime Minister, is a moderate leader who remains under strong pressure from hardliners within the ruling Fianna Fail party to adopt a much tougher line towards the Stormont Government in Belfast. Accordingly, British policies — with only occasional lapses, such as the noisy exchange of the Lynch/Heath telegrams in August — have been directed at not undermining his position at all underpinning his military solution.

Mr. Lynch, for his part, has responded by insisting both inside the Cabinet room and in the Dail (Parliament) that his own particular brand of quiet conciliation with London is the most effective method of dealing with the Northern crisis. It has been claimed finally won from the British Government an acceptance of the fact that Dublin does have a legitimate interest, and a positive role to play, in resolving the Ulster problem, recognition which took on concrete form with his presence at last month's tripartite talks at Chequers.

Mr. Kevin Boland, formerly a key Minister in Mr. Lynch's Government and one of the party's top electoral strategists, is pressing on with the job of organising his own Republican Party on a nationwide basis, and he is sure to capture some traditional exchanges are not seen to produce fundamental and fairly immediate political changes on the ground within Northern Ireland. Mr. Lynch's own authority inside the Fianna Fail organisation will be eroded. He faced a new test of his authority when the Dail cut short its summer recess for a special debate to-day and to-morrow on Northern Ireland, and the new Parliamentary term may very well determine the date of the next General Election.

The Prime Minister's personal disappointment at the apparent lack of political initiatives by Whitehall is all the more genuine because he is convinced that his Government is sticking to its side of an unwritten bargain stemming from the Chequers meetings and earlier Dublin diplomatic exchanges.

Both Mr. Heath and Mr. Faulkner have pressed on him the argument that his Government should be doing much more to contain the activities of the various militant Republican factions and to stop the gunrunning.

Mr. Lynch, in fact, has been working quietly along these lines, although he is very naturally averse to giving the IRA a free hand.

The debate on Ulster, conceded by the Government following the Prime Minister's speech, has been working quietly along these lines, although he is very naturally averse to giving the IRA a free hand.

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Other Overseas News

BRIEF

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DAR ES SALAAM: — The

16th African People's Organisation (SWAPO) said here

16 South African soldiers

were killed and several others

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in Namibia (South-West Africa). The actions took place September 24, October 4 and October 5. The communiqué also

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CAIRO: Some 1,750 candi-

dates have been nominated for

October 27 general election

the 250-member Peoples

Assembly. The election will be

last stage in M. Sadat's

reform and reform of Egypt's

political institutions.

NEW BENGAL CHARITY DRIVE

By Kevin Rafferty

FAIR is launching a campaign

to persuade world leaders

to take more interest and pro-

vide more money to rescue

people who are suffering in

real. The charity has pre-

pared a special report The Testi-

ment of Siria, containing

details of 80 people, mainly

nationalists and aid workers, on

Bengal situation. This docu-

ment is being sent to all British

and other heads of state:

Signs of strain in Arab federation

By RICHARD JOHNS, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT SADAT will visit Tripoli in the near future for further evidence of a cooling in relations between Libya and the other members of the Federation with Colonel Muammar Khedaf.

According to Cairo Press reprinted right-wing Beirut newspaper, President Sadat made known his intention of going to Tripoli at the weekend when he rejected three proposals made by

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AN INSTEAD political conditions in East Pakistan are likely to force Pakistan to cut back its economic plans, according to experts here. Economic activity is slow and the scarcity of foreign exchange is affecting industrial progress.

An increase in premium rates

by U.S. and British insurers is also causing concern to Pakistani businessmen. The war risks rating committee and Lloyds said the increase in insurance rates on cargoes to and from East Pakistan from yesterday was to be covered by clauses relating to war and strike, riot and civil commotion risks. Business circles in Karachi claimed that this appeared to be an international conspiracy to cripple Pakistan, jute exports from East Pakistan, and asked the Government to intervene.

Another setback to the economy is that hundreds of applications are at present still pending with industrial financing agencies because of the shortage of foreign exchange funds following the cutback in foreign aid and credits earlier this year.

Industrial units in East Pakistan were greatly damaged early this year, and if adequate credit facilities are not provided it will be difficult to normalise the situation.

UPI

The most affected agency is the Industrial Development Bank of Pakistan which is faced with acute shortage of these funds to finance medium industries. The biggest financing agency in the country, the Pakistan Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation, has recently introduced a scheme to finance industrial projects from rupee resources because of the tight foreign currency controls. Business circles in Karachi claimed that this is stands in the way of victory.

The Prime Minister, in a nationwide broadcast following a silent protest by Buddhists against Saturday's suspension of the National Assembly, appealed for unity but coupled it with a veiled threat against dissenters.

"Recently, certain groups have launched acts aimed at creating confusion," he said. "There is a fifth column at work."

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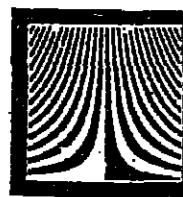
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The Technical Page

EDITED BY ARTHUR BENNETT AND TED SCHOETERS

• LIQUID CRYSTALS

Colours mark heat changes

LIQUID crystals flow like liquids but show the optical characteristics of crystals. More specifically, the molecules of a liquid crystal have a defined order somewhere between a liquid and a solid.

The first recorded example of a liquid crystal was in 1888—it was cholesterol benzoate, and was characterised as a new substance because it displayed brilliant colours when heated and cooled. Until the 1930s liquid crystals were the subject of considerable research interest faded but revived in the 1950s since then almost all the major electronics corporations in the U.S. have been engaged in some form of liquid crystal research.

Research workers have classified liquid crystals in two broad divisions—thermotropic and lyotropic. Those demonstrating thermotropic mesophases are further divided into smectic, nematic and cholesteric types. Of these it is the cholesteric and nematic liquid crystals that have stimulated the greatest industrial, commercial, and artistic interest.

Nematic liquid crystals are normally transparent, but on application of a small voltage (3-30 volts, AC or DC) they become translucent or "frosted". The degree of transulence is controlled by the voltage, and the process reverses as voltage drops. Response time is a fraction of a second.

Manufacturers of nematic crystals envisage a whole range of applications (some in electronics are described in the following article), including windows that automatically darken in sunlight, optical shutters, alpha numeric systems, inch-thick TV sets to hang on the wall like a picture, and a variety of display devices and signs.

Cholesterics are probably the most interesting of the liquid crystals. Their most intriguing or other systems, a check for research and development.

Fabrication costs are expected to be considerably lower than conventional displays, and the amount of electronics required will be reduced by some 75 per cent, and because alternating current is used, liquid crystals have a longer lifetime than those used in conventional direct current systems. In the devices shown by liquid crystals are of a machine tool. Sprayed on the liquid crystals scatter available light when a voltage is applied, becoming turbulent and changing in appearance from transparent to opaque or frosty.

The crystals can be supplied with an irreversible colour change to operate liquid crystal displays. It amounts to about 300 micrometres per square inch of area to be activated.

The eight-character display was made by sandwiching a thin liquid-crystal layer between two plates of glass. The top plate is coated with a conductive film, patterned to form eight separate blocks. The lower plate is coated directly beneath each block to fashion seven segments grouped in a figure-eight pattern. When various combinations of segments are activated, a specific numeral—ranging from 0 to 9—can be formed, along with a decimal point.

Key to the display is a single lead linking all common segments and decimal points along the horizontal row. In addition, each of the eight characters across the display has a separate lead, so that each character can be activated independently or simultaneously. Each character is scanned electronically in sequence to determine which ones are to be activated.

By changing the frequency of the alternating current on the leads, the liquid crystal film behind each of the eight blocks can be made to appear either transparent or opaque. A high-frequency pulse makes the liquid crystal film appear transparent. A low-frequency pulse makes it opaque or frosty. Thus messages or displays can be created as desired.

• POLLUTION

Managers must be responsible

MANAGEMENT bears the main responsibility for pollution prevention, according to Mr. A. J. Biggs, the CBI's chief technical adviser on pollution problems. Speaking during the "Prodecon '71" symposium at the Production Engineering Research Association at Melton Mowbray, he said managers must make themselves aware of legislation affecting effluent from their plant, both gaseous and liquid.

They must learn to use the best practices and techniques to comply with laws and regulations as economically as possible.

Mr. Biggs foresees increasing pressure over the next few years to abate pollution, but warned his audience that the resources available for the job were not unlimited and pointed to the need for continuing consultation between industry and Government, as well as local authorities.

• COMPUTERS

Modelling made easy

IMPROVED business forecasting with much simpler equipment and procedures than normally associated with company model building is possible by means of an analogue display computer which uses simple mathematical relationships to build a working replica of a business or company situation.

Designed as the first of a series of such devices by Management Aids of 90 Tontine Street, Folkestone, Kent, the unit is supported by an advisory service by the company whose staff can show potential users how to obtain the data they need to work the machines.

Accuracy improves as the equipment is used and it may help the smaller operator as a stepping stone to the more abstruse operational research techniques.

minimum and 4 inch diameter in the motorised cutting head work like a slitter, with the upper knife knurled. When edge trimming is used the head is pulled into contact with the strip edge. The upper knife bites into the strip, driving the head forward and cutting across the strip width. When the cut is complete, the knives lose their grip and the head is returned by hand or counter balance weight.

The unit is mounted on castors moving in machined guideways and is brought in and out of the production strip line as required.

Jigs mounted on the carriages provide for the location and clamping of the components to be drilled. To operate the machine the operator moves either carriage into the central position, automatically locking it into the first drilling position.

The machine is fitted with Desoutter-AFD self-feed, fully automatic drill units, which drill over 10 linear movements to provide the required pattern of holes.

Holes may be drilled up to 5-16th inch diameter in alu-

minium and 4 inch diameter in steel. Countersinks and recesses can be provided in addition to plain holes, and tapping capability is optional. A spray lubrication system is built into the machine to assist the drilling and storage.

The rotary knives in the

motorised cutting head work like a slitter, with the upper knife knurled. When edge trimming is used the head is pulled into contact with the strip edge. The upper knife bites into the strip, driving the head forward and cutting across the strip width. When the cut is complete, the knives lose their grip and the head is returned by hand or counter balance weight.

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Jigs mounted on the carriages provide for the location and clamping of the components to be drilled. To operate the machine the operator moves either carriage into the central position, automatically locking it into the first drilling position.

The machine is fitted with Desoutter-AFD self-feed, fully automatic drill units, which drill over 10 linear movements to provide the required pattern of holes.

Holes may be drilled up to 5-16th inch diameter in alu-

minium and 4 inch diameter in steel. Countersinks and recesses can be provided in addition to plain holes, and tapping capability is optional. A spray lubrication system is built into the machine to assist the drilling and storage.

The rotary knives in the

motorised cutting head work like a slitter, with the upper knife knurled. When edge trimming is used the head is pulled into contact with the strip edge. The upper knife bites into the strip, driving the head forward and cutting across the strip width. When the cut is complete, the knives lose their grip and the head is returned by hand or counter balance weight.

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• SOFTWARE

Speeding up the tour operation

AIMED at package tour operators, a computerised reservation system which has cost £120,000 to create, is being offered by Detwiler, Thomas & Associates in conjunction with Centre-File, the National Westminster computing services branch.

Centre-File will be operating the service as a share facility along the lines on which it provides services to brokers and building societies.

Operators will have visual display units and/or printers in their offices and as inquiries are made, the sales staff will be able to interrogate the central machines to find out just what is available. If the answer is "yes", details are displayed on the local screen, or printed out and the booking is confirmed immediately. If the requested holiday cannot be arranged, nearest alternatives are automatically presented.

As soon as a booking is made the computer programs immediately update all information in the file so that there is no chance of a double booking. The system also allows the operator to offer holidays he has available, reducing the risk of finding some have been left on the shelf.

Packaged tour operations are expected to grow over the next few years as such a rate that they will have doubled by 1980. Administrative problems involved in booking, together with clerical staff shortages will make operators' problems a nightmare of paperwork unless computer techniques are adopted.

Tourism is the largest industry in the world and any system which will reduce the frequency of the much-publicised旺季 bookings is to be welcomed.

Detwiler, Thomas, operates from 21 Montagu Street, London W1.

Moving over to work in real-time

MANY COMPUTER installations are moving towards a multi manufacturer situation which will require users either to adapt to a new deal more software writing themselves, or to rely on the services of software houses for proprietary packages or work which will reconcile the existing system with the additional equipment.

One such product, mentioned at a seminar in London yesterday on "Computers and Communications," is a monitor for communications systems operating in real time from larger IBM mainframes.

"Intercomm" is a product of Programming Methods Incorporated, itself part of the GEC group which has a GTE Information Systems centre at Castle Way, Feltham, Middlesex. It has cost a considerable amount of time and effort to develop and is described as eliminating inefficient processing by providing the processing of many messages in parallel without allowing the central processor to remain idle while files are being consulted.

Intercomm allows batch processing users to convert to real time without having to rewrite applications programs. At the same time, it allows development of new systems to write in a variety of languages.

It permits safe recovery of all messages in the event of computer failure and it will allow additions to terminals to the system without any effect on users' programs.



• METALWORKING

Unblemished sheet metal

STRIPPABLE deep-drawing coatings which protect the surfaces of metal sheets during forming are made from a liquid synthetic polymer combined with dissolved synthetic resins, formulated to allow thinning with a number of organic solvents.

This combination, known as "Telzinyl," sets into a plastic film which provides good protection against blows and abrasion in processing and transport. High-grade surface finishes are thus retained on the final product. In addition, sensitive forming tools are shielded from corrosion and premature wear; for example, any welding of sheets to them in the drawing operation is precluded.

Applications include deep-drawing of car parts, stainless steel tableware and decorative facade elements for buildings; and protection of metal surfaces (particularly bright or polished sheets) against chemical or mechanical harm during delivery and storage.

As a clear varnish, dyed red or blue, the coating is supplied in four viscosities with a run-out time of 80 to 120 seconds (based on DIN standard measuring cup). Further details from Chemie-Export-Import, 1055 Berlin, Storkower Strasse 133, East Germany.

Pneumatic drilling

SPECIAL purpose, low-cost automatic drilling machines have been brought out by Frazer-Nash (Engineering), of South Street, Midhurst, a company which is more widely known as a design engineering organisation.

A typical machine from the new range is a double carriage pneumatic drilling machine capable of drilling up to 90 holes of even pitch, but different angles, in a curved aluminium or steel component.

Automatically programmed on a linear track arrangement, the machine based on the double carriage principle—while one component is being drilled on one carriage, the other carriage is repositioned.

Jigs mounted on the carriages provide for the location and clamping of the components to be drilled. To operate the machine the operator moves either carriage into the central position, automatically locking it into the first drilling position.

The machine is fitted with Desoutter-AFD self-feed, fully automatic drill units, which drill over 10 linear movements to provide the required pattern of holes.

Holes may be drilled up to 5-16th inch diameter in alu-

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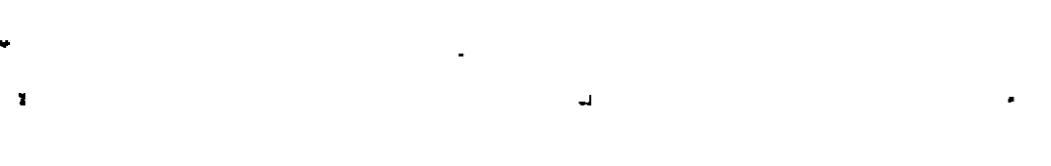
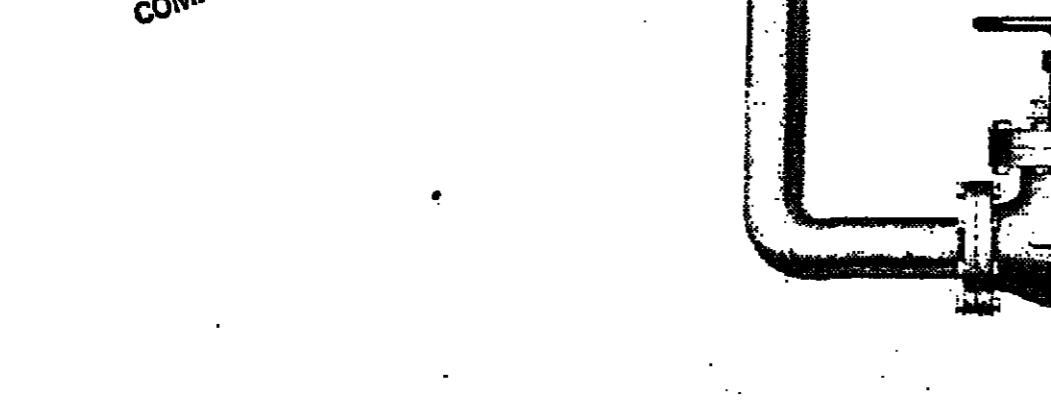
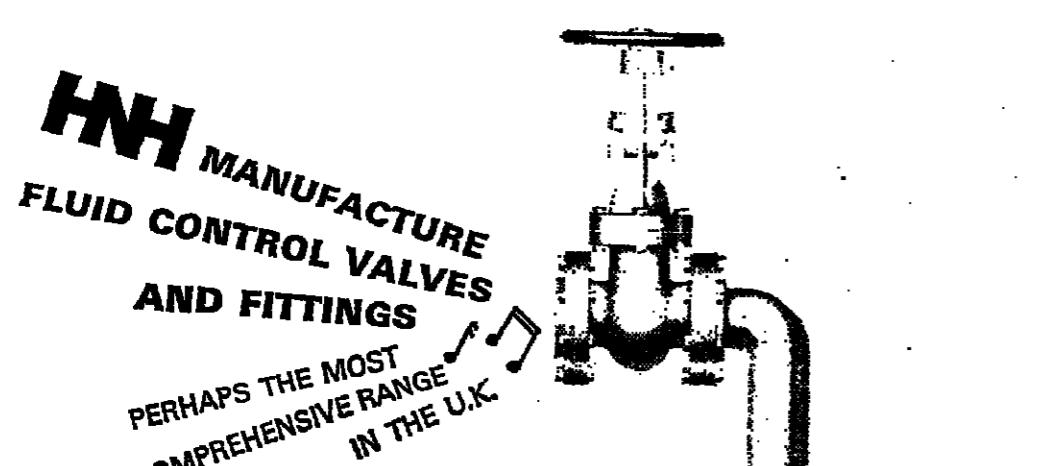
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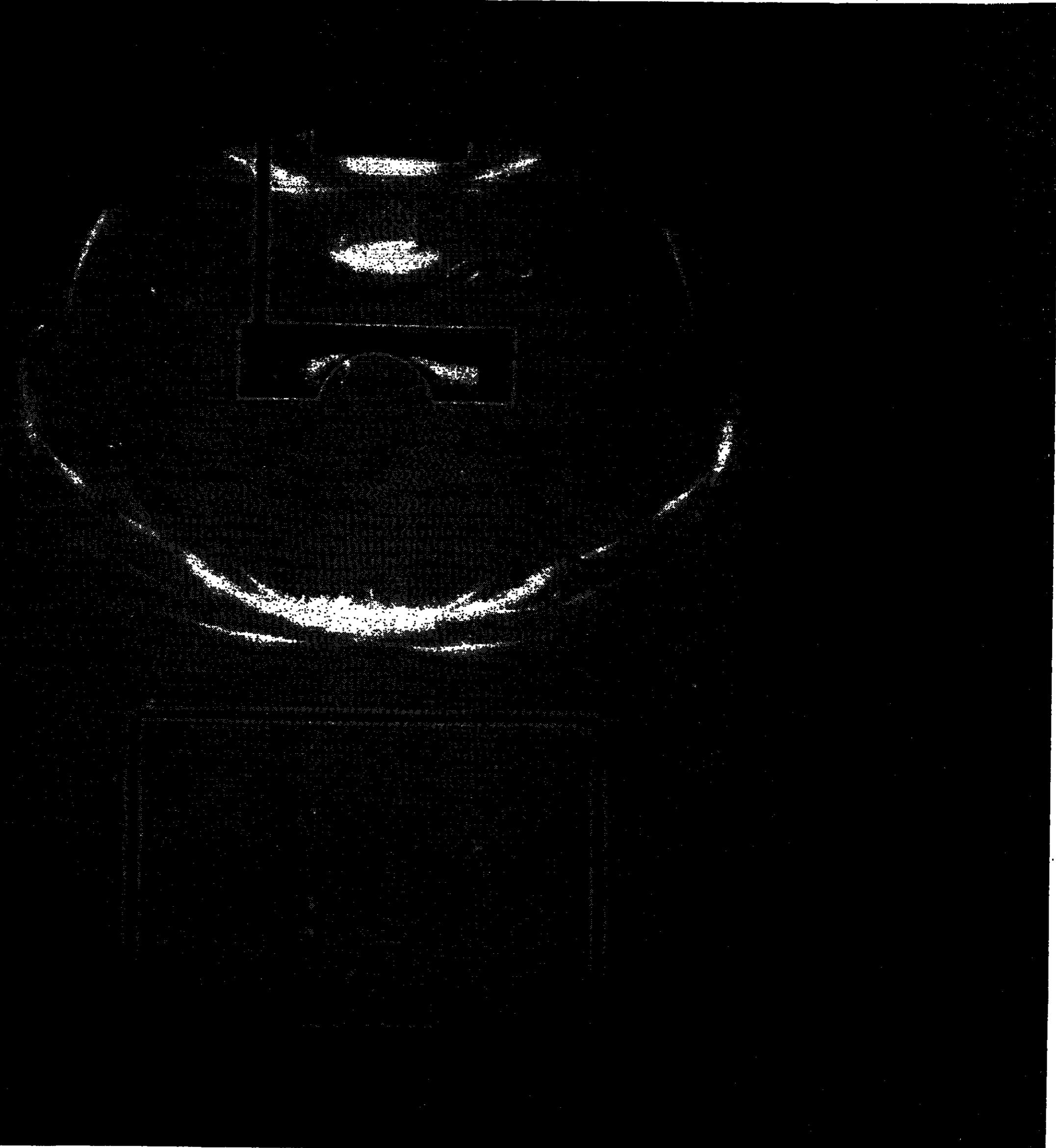
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Top right



Ultrasonic pulses in a liquid taken with the aid of Schlieren apparatus developed by TI

TI research takes a new look at ultrasound

E&E Advanced engineering in action! important work on the visualisation of ultrasound at the T.I. Research Laboratories, Hinxton Hall, near Cambridge, is part of a continuing programme to improve techniques for non-destructive testing of welded and seamless steel pressure tube.

Visualisation of ultrasound

The programme includes the design of a new generation of high-speed ultrasonic equipment with electronic beam steering which eliminates the need for tube rotation in testing. The two methods of visualisation developed by TI are direct pulse images using a specially-developed Schlieren apparatus, and computer plotting. Schlieren methods for detecting deviation of a parallel light beam caused by scattering, diffraction or refraction are well established. The techniques have already been used for the visualisation of continuous ultrasound in liquids. But TI research has led to the building of an ultra-sensitive Schlieren apparatus, in which pulsed ultrasound may be visualised both in water and in solids, with 'freezing' of the wave motion so that individual wavelets can be distinguished.

Glass tubes are used as models as their elastic properties are very similar to steel. In a glass block, ultrasound has been clearly recorded as separate pulses split into longitudinal and shear waves. Frequencies down to 200 kHz may be used, the wavelength of which is 25 times that used in normal ultrasonic testing. This allows dimensions to be scaled up several times so that the effects of defects as small as 0.025mm can be examined in magnified form. Computer visualisation makes use of a standard program which plots the path of ultrasound and the pulse shape. Power levels at different

points in the wave can also be indicated, so focusing efficiency can be studied, and lens design optimised. Such theoretical studies are important as complementary techniques to Schlieren visualisation.

Ultrasonic beam steering

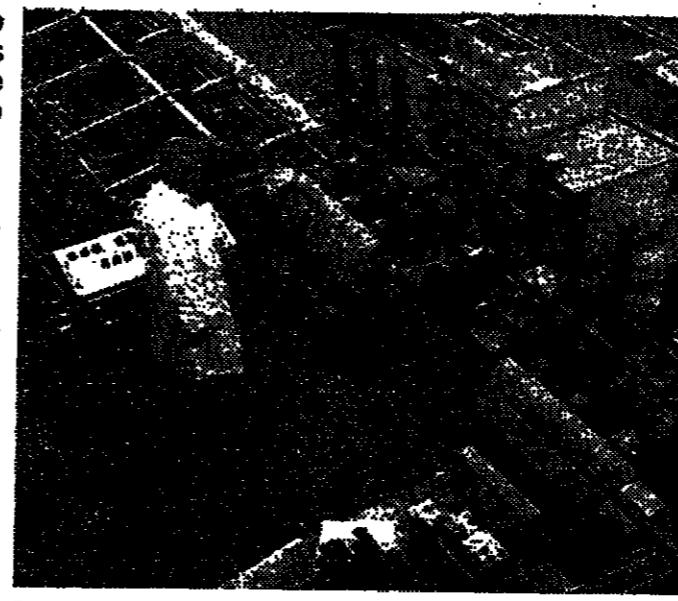
Development of improved ultrasonic techniques and equipment for production testing of steel tubes has been a continuous process for some years at TI Research Laboratories. The main requirements are for increased speed of testing, reduced tube handling, and precision to higher standards.

The TI high speed ultrasonic tester now in use in production has 24 probes, mounted in a ring, which surround the tube. These are pulsed sequentially, and the tube is slowly rotated to provide complete circumferential scanning. This was an important breakthrough compared to the slow speed conventional rotating tube and single probe method. Theoretically, the addition of further probes up to

The ultra-sensitive Schlieren apparatus designed and built at Hinxton Hall.

72 could eliminate rotation altogether for many tube sizes, but this would lead to far greater complexity in setting-up procedures. In fact, for complete 100% testing and detection of all longitudinal, transverse and intermediate angle defects, over 1000 probes would be necessary—an impossible piece of equipment for production use. Research was therefore directed at new techniques which would reduce mechanical setting-up procedures and improve thoroughness of testing to meet more stringent quality control standards.

Following computer simulation, experiments were made with a phased array of ultrasonic transducers. Electronic switching was developed so that the transducers could be electronically fired at correct time intervals relative to their distance from a desired focal point, and so contribute to a combined ultrasonic beam. This made it possible to utilise the



Prototype high speed ultrasonic tester under development.

array as a 'distributed probe'. With a continuous circular array surrounding a tube, this focus of ultrasound from an arc of transducers can be made to travel around and through the tube, providing a 100% ultrasonic testing with no mechanical rotation of the tube or ultrasonic test head required.

Transducer firing times for the various tube sizes have been calculated by computer and probes can be set up electronically instead of mechanically when a tube size is changed. The probes were specially developed by TI and are smaller than any used before.

A complete experimental equipment has now been built comprising 90 transducers and associated electronics.

This challenging work is just one example of the many types of fundamental and applied research undertaken throughout TI—a £300 million group of over 100 companies producing both industrial and consumer goods.

1967 Coventry Gauge
1968 TI/DED
1969 Coventry Gauge
1970 Coventry Gauge
1970 Crane Packing
1971 Raleigh Industries



an advanced engineering group

To: Tube Investments Ltd., Information Service, Bridgewater House, Cleveland Row, St. James's, London SW1A 1DG. Please send me the publication *Ten minutes with an advanced engineering group*.

Name

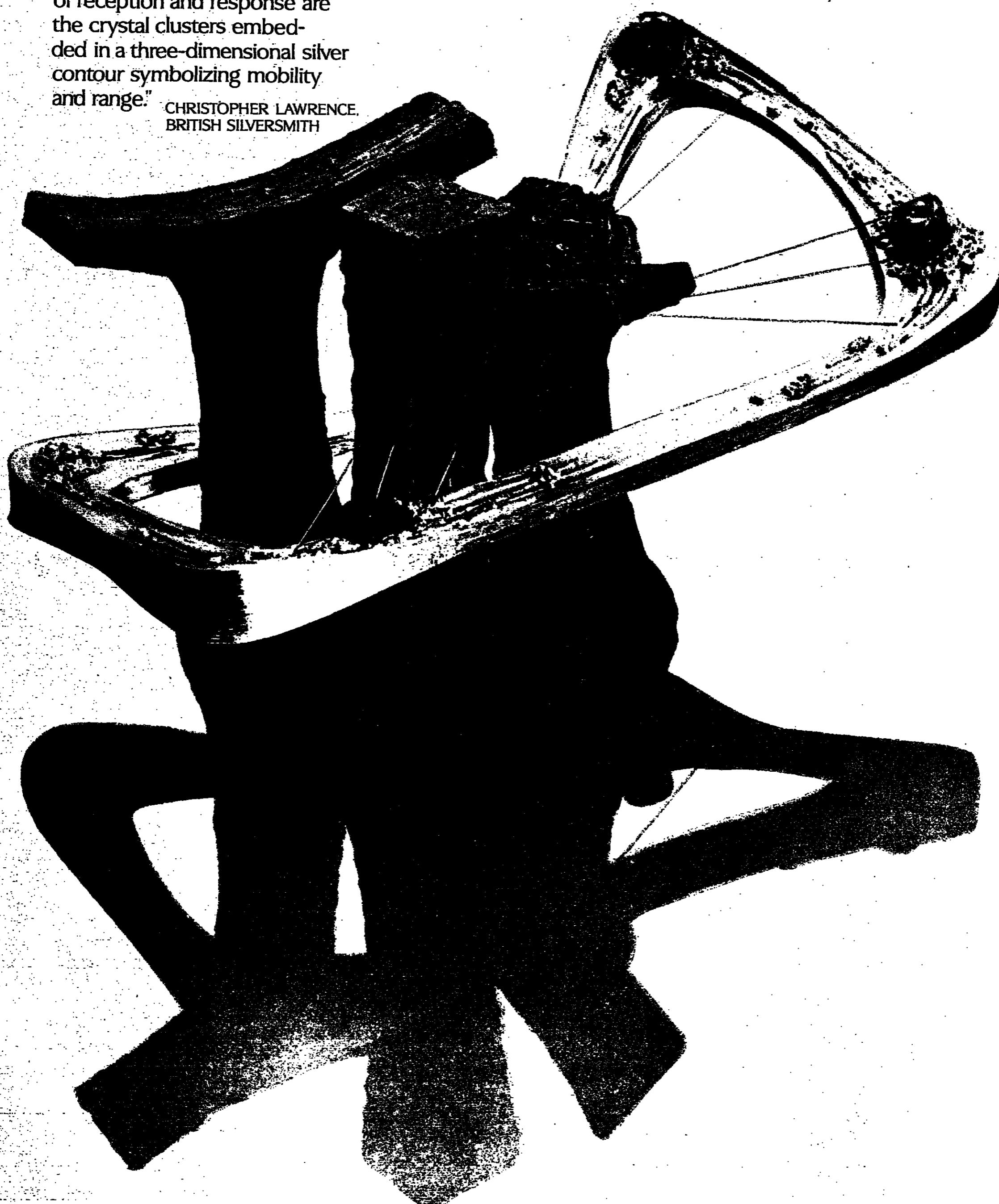
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"A mobile communication system provides a powerful voice that penetrates walls of isolation. In my sculpture, the concrete structure represents the central station which sends and receives a vital flow of messages—the golden wires. The satellite points of reception and response are the crystal clusters embedded in a three-dimensional silver contour symbolizing mobility and range."

CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE,
BRITISH SILVERSMITH

If you need a two-way communication system that permits mobile staff to remain continuously in touch with base operations, come to **ITT**. British Rail did, for mainline terminal stations at Waterloo and Liverpool Street, and for all marshalling yards in the London Midland Region.

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STANDARD TELEPHONES AND CABLES

ITT

Rockefeller proposes new approach to money crisis

MR. DAVID ROCKEFELLER, thoroughly the possible need for revision of the monetary and chairman of the Chase Manhattan greater exchange rate flexibility, fiscal structure, and to realise establishment of an international including advantages of wider long-term objectives by establishing the international commission to study "quietly and intensively" the long-range problems arising out of the current monetary crisis, while the Group of Ten leading industrial nations act to resolve immediate problems.

The New York banker also indicated that agreement on satisfactory realignment of exchange rates "might well include a modest change in the relationship between the dollar and gold."

Bickering Regarding a "new international currency," Mr. Rockefeller said: "There is a basic need for the world to begin my own country. The U.S. must move away from both gold and the dollar standard toward a reasonably on trade and capital flow, and not expect that all the dropping of barriers will be done by others.

"The essential point," he continued, "is to secure a consensus that a strong U.S. balance of trade position is in the best interest of all nations."

EXPORTS UP AT FORTH PORTS

Latest figures for the Forth ports, covering the first nine months of the year show that total traffic at 6.5m. tons is nearly 10 per cent up on the previous year, almost a 17 per cent increase. Petroleum products, coal, iron and steel, bauxite, fertilisers and beverages all show substantial increases.

Essential

Mr. Rockefeller outlined two stages to restructure world financial and trade relationships "in a manner which will prove a lasting benefit to all concerned."

Along with this exchange rate realignment "the U.S. should move to drop the import surcharge and the buy-American investment credit."

Instead, he proposed a new international commission to consider redefining official national currency values in terms of a new international central bank perhaps Special Drawing Rights (SDR): referring to the role of internationally created central bank reserve bank system." The second is "to examine assets" and examining strive for accord on fundamental issues.

Feather sends MPs reminder of TUC's anti-Market line

MR. VIC FEATHER, TUC General Secretary has written to all MPs reminding them of the TUC's opposition to Britain's entry into the Common Market and the negotiated terms and of the economic stagnation in Britain, thus driving industrial development to the Continent with heavier unemployment in such areas as Scotland and the North East.

The letter gives the following three major reasons for the TUC's policy: "First, from the end of the transitional period Britain will be contributing some 25 per cent of the Community budget and getting only 6 per cent back in return. This outcome is in our view wholly inequitable: it constitutes the central failure of the negotiations."

"This leads to the second problem—a balance of payments cost amounting to at least £500m. each year. No spokesman has challenged this figure. A balance of payments burden of this order can only mean continued economic stagnation in Britain, thus driving industrial development to the Continent with heavier unemployment in such areas as Scotland and the North East."

'Dear food'

Third, that the negotiators have accepted that Britain shall move over to a dear food policy, resulting in import levies and distortion of the market world wide for the huge problem of entry.

"This leads to the second effect of large increases in food: a General Election now."

Settlement euphoria in Salisbury

There is growing confidence in the Rhodesian capital that prospects for a settlement with Britain are now better than ever before. Yet some Rhodesians argue that the economic case for a settlement has been exaggerated. Tony Hawkins reporting from Salisbury, Wednesday

DESPITE the cautionary noises of black rule in anything under years coming from London, it is firmly in Salisbury that Sir Alec Douglas-Home will visit Rhodesia next month and that prospects for a settlement of the six-year-old dispute are better than ever before.

Salisbury is thick with rumour not only about the timing of the Foreign Secretary's visit but also of British officials planning to reopen their High Commission office in the capital, foreign airline representatives intriguing about plans to restore Salisbury to their international schedules, and Japanese trade missions also seeking offices in the city.

Terms

Admittedly, old Rhodesians who have lived through the UDI crisis and the subsequent abortive Tiger and Fearless conferences have heard all these stories before. This time, however, they are being taken a good deal more seriously, principally because it is felt that a Conservative Government is offering terms a good deal more palatable to White Rhodesians than the Tiger/Fearless formulae. Indeed, the major newspaper group is so confident of the agreement that it has started work on a "Settlement Supplement."

British officials arrive in Salisbury on Thursday to continue the dialogue in search of a "completely watertight" situation before Sir Alec finally announces his plans to fly to Rhodesia. It is also felt a near certainty that Lord Goodman's portly figure will be seen in the streets of Salisbury again before Sir Alec arrives. In other words, it seems that there are still some important issues to be determined before the summit is held.

On the Rhodesia side, settlement euphoria has increased in the last few days following the Rhodesian Front Congress at which the threatened Right-wing rebellion failed (yet again) to materialise. There are various possible explanations for this. Perhaps the most convincing is that the rank and file of the ruling party do not believe that "good old Smithy" would ever agree to a formula that smacked

of white supremacy.

In the meantime, there is a softening up process under way.

Businessmen will tell you how Ministers and senior officials are arguing privately that this time Rhodesia simply cannot afford not to settle, largely because of the very difficult and seemingly still deteriorating balance of payments position.

Businessmen shake their heads gloomily when discussing the currency allocations outlook for the next 12 months, while industrialists warn of falling levels of stocks and inventories.

Revised balance of payments figures for the first five years of UDI publication last year show a broadly unsatisfactory situation.

In only one of the five post-sanctions years (1968) did Rhodesia manage a surplus on current account, and this was only of the order of £2m. In the other four

years there is a fairly well-defined limit to the number of immigrants and the amount of capital that the economy can absorb without sparking inflationary forces and implying an unacceptable burden on a current account in the form of higher imports. Further, capital inflows reflect a longer-term liability.

Admittedly, the post-UDI period has been characterised by substantial capital inflows (not net borrowing abroad). But as economists point out, this usually involves a later burden on the balance of payments in the form of loan servicing and repayment. Even when these capital inflows are taken into account, the overall external payments account since UDI is somewhat in deficit—though, to be fair, in the last two years there were surpluses on combined current and capital account.

A third explanation is that, at this stage, there is no alternative leader to Ian Smith. A very powerful Right-wing element exists both within the Front and outside it, but at this moment it is underpinning further lack of real issues on which to attack the Government. A settlement based on black rule within "a few decades" would be precisely the issue which the Right-wingers would seize to establish a new party.

It seems, however, that the Right-wingers need not worry unduly at this stage. The harsh fact is that Tory politicians will be anxious to play this down—if that is Mr. Smith and his Cabinet are most unlikely to have been convinced over the past year that everything they have stood for since coming to power in 1962 is untenable and must now be replaced by a return to the Whitehead-Welensky policies of gradualism and elimination of racial discrimination.

In other words, if Mr. Smith is going to agree to a deal, he will do so with his eyes open—confident that either he or his successors will be able to redress the balance in later years, returning Rhodesia to the "true" path of racial discrimination.

Furthermore, although exports have risen sharply from the trough of 1968 to £156m. last year, they are still some 15 per cent below their 1965 pre-sanctions peak. On top of this, a further deterioration in Rhodesia's terms of trade seems probable this year.

Investment

The latest national accounts show that while capital investment has continued its upward trend, reaching nearly £100m. last year—an increase of nearly 50 per cent on its 1965 pre-sanctions level—private sector investment actually declined last year (held back by the foreign currency shortage), while public sector investment

rose nearly 40 per cent.

Again, this is a situation which is likely to continue because the public sector capital spending has a high import content. So long as it remains at a high level, private investment (and thereby job creation) has to be curtailed.

One further figure in the national accounts makes uncomfortable reading for Mr. Smith's Government. This is the fact

that during the 1960s, income per head stagnated and was virtually the same in 1970 as ten years earlier. In the light of sanctions and, before them, the dissolution of the Federation

Good grounds

In other words, there are fairly sound grounds for suggesting that the economic benefits of an agreement are unlikely to be anything like as great as frequently claimed. This will make selling the terms of a settlement easier to an electorate that persistently moves further to the Right. But the same is who claimed that UDI would an economic success, can doubt—without any great loss of conscience—argue that settlement would spark off a secondary education in particular.

If this analysis is right, the economic benefits (in the short term at least) are not so

attractively attractive, one wonders why Mr. Smith and his colleagues are contemplating a deal which would be prepared to pay.

Other export gains are likely to be minimal. This is partly because of the physical capacity of the physical capacity of the economy, which hardly holds water in Africa things change quickly for anyone to look far ahead.

Perhaps the answer has to be seen as a combination of South African and Portuguese pressure, concern about the reparation of profits to the U.K., to renew the economic and defence infrastructure (civil and military aircraft, transport equipment plant and machine tools, nuclear and other policies, nuclear and other policies, the nationalisation of space, competition policy, consumer protection and compensation). In the DTI's second phase, these policies will start to be offered again.

DTI's first year—Davies

THIS WEEK'S issue of "Trade and Industry" carries a message from Mr. John Davies, Secretary for Trade and Industry, on the first anniversary of the establishment of his Department. He writes: "The DTI's objective, set in last October's White Paper, is to help British industry and commerce improve their economic and technological strength and competitiveness. Given these guidelines two consequences follow.

First, whatever the pressures in day-to-day decisions we must go for viable solutions. We cannot afford short-term expedients for workers, firms or whole regions. Once the next corner is turned, we must get major to fruition.

HALWINS LIMITED

Ladies', Children's and Men's Wear by Mail Order

	16 months to 30th June 1971	Year to 28th February 1972
Sales	£3,194,366	£1,549,558
Group pre-tax profit	£342,193	£226,060
Group profit after taxation	£210,020	£124,457
Dividend	80%*	55%
Retained profit	£161,396	£92,104

*equivalent annual rate - 60%

Extracts from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. H. J. Gower:

Profits for the last six months were adversely affected by the postal strike.

We are now issuing two main catalogues per year—one for Spring/Summer, the other for Autumn/Winter. This change in policy has enabled us to offer a wider selection of goods and customer reaction is very satisfactory.

Warehouse capacity has been increased—we are now utilising 90,000 square feet and, in addition, there is planning permission for a further 150,000 square feet. A pilot cash and carry operation is proposed from another warehouse.

Prospects for the current year are bright. The Directors expect to be able to recommend a dividend of at least 30% for the current year—the equivalent annual rate of 60% adjusted for the proposed one for one scrip issue.

ZETTERS POOLS LIMITED

RESULTS following are the audited results of the Group for the year ended 31st March, 1971:

	1971	1970
Turnover (excludes Pools Betting Tax and payments to winners)	£1,182,975	£1,172,731
Profit before taxation	151,159	129,708
Taxation	57,915	56,524
Profit after taxation	£ 93,244	£ 73,184

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Profit before taxation 151,159 129,708

Taxation 57,915 56,524

Profit after taxation £ 93,244 £ 73,184

RESULTS The directors recommend a final dividend of 20% (1970 17%).

CHANGE OF NAME With diversified activities now contributing substantially to group profits, it has been decided that a change of name to ZETTERS GROUP LIMITED will be appropriate.

THE FUTURE Both pools and bingo have made an excellent start to the year and subject to no abnormal events we look forward confidently to record new profits.

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Get the facts from the Department of Trade & Industry

100% in 1971

J. P. L. in 1970

London Metal Exchange

FINANCIAL TIMES SURVEY

Depressed conditions limit progress

by JOHN EDWARDS

The past year has not exactly decided whether to have aluminium ingots or billets, or both, as the basis for the contract, as always, the state of the but, perhaps, most difficult of all is to try to find much enthusiasm among consumers for the whole project. Put off by the wild fluctuations in the copper price that makes forward planning a nightmare, consumers generally seem to prefer the fixed price system, even if the prices are set by the producers. Price stability has been a big factor in building up sales of aluminium, especially as a substitute for the erratically priced copper. At the same time

it is still far from certain that an aluminium contract will eventually be introduced, though theoretically aluminium is a "natural" for the Metal Exchange, as the biggest added non-ferrous metal in tonnage terms, there are formidable problems to be overcome establishing a futures market, and foremost, is the intransigent opposition of the producers, much smaller in number than most other metals and consequently exercising much more control over world supplies.

Hostile attitude

A strong physically based futures market of the kind that LME has established so well for copper must have an assured supply of aluminium to succeed, and the stolid attitude of the producers did mean having to rely only on some East European aluminium can fulfil a useful role. With the relative failure of the LME silver market so far like the existing LME of the LME's reputation could not stand a "flop."

Even less promising are the prospects for other new markets, such as nickel or the minor metals. The New York nickel futures market, started last year, has not proved a success. The LME might well be able to establish a better nickel market but the producers are sufficiently dominant to oppose anyone else trying to decide prices. The lack of volume and difficulty in establishing agreed quality standards also makes viable markets in minor metals unlikely.

Pricing basis

Balked in expanding into new areas, the LME is facing some threats to its established markets. The steep decline in prices of lead, for example, has triggered off moves by certain primary lead producers to introduce a fixed producer price to replace the LME settlement quotation as a pricing basis. It is argued that the LME lead values have been artificially depressed by the surplus of supplies dumped on the market by secondary lead refiners, whose costs are totally different from primary mine producers. There is little doubt that most lead producers, who have already successfully established a fixed quotation for zinc, would like to do the same

One of the major criticisms of the Exchange is that speculators play too important a part in deciding the price that industry has to pay for its metals. In the present conditions of poor demand, when industry trading is at a low ebb, the Exchange is especially vulnerable to speculators assuming a more dominant role since they are providing the bulk of business at times. It is significant that the New York copper market, very much dominated by speculators, is at present tending to call the time



The Ring of the Exchange.

members (that is companies allowed to trade in the ring). Although the rule that only U.K. companies can actually be ring-dealing members still applies, the LME is well aware that on some occasions U.K. companies are formed solely to enable an overseas parent company to trade in the ring. Two recent members are West German and U.S. controlled companies, and shortly the first Japanese-owned subsidiary is expected to be approved for ring-dealing membership. A big Canadian producer—formerly an implacable critic of the LME—has also acquired a 50 per cent stake in one of the leading broking companies.

The increasingly international nature of the Metal Exchange is an important part of its future development. Delivery depots in Japan, Australia and the U.S. is one suggested future development to broaden the scope of trading on a world basis, for example.

EEC controls

The need to expand internationally is all the more important at present with Britain's likely entry into the EEC. Because of the EEC controls on imports of various metals, including lead and zinc in particular, there could be considerable difficulties over the operation of the LME warehouse system. At the moment the U.K. delivery points provide a loophole, for example, to overcome the EEC restrictions on imports of lead and zinc from Eastern European countries, with which it has special trading agreements, but as a member of the enlarged Community Britain would be subject to the same restrictions and possible import quota controls.

Negotiations are going on with Brussels to find an acceptable formula to retain the Metal Exchange's unique standing in the world's non-ferrous metal trade. But stronger links with countries outside the EEC are likely to turn away business broadened and strengthened is the LME can continue to play a world role in the years ahead.

Sometimes a Mining House needs a Bank that's **VIN**really on its metal

There's a lot more to financing a major mining project than providing the finance.

Citibank evaluates mining projects in depth, including: on-site inspection of the ore body by one of our own mining engineers; an evaluation of forecast extraction, milling and smelting rates; and an assessment of future metal prices—enabling us to structure a project loan repayable from the development of the ore body.

Citibank has branches and affiliates in over 80 countries, including Australia, South Africa and Canada, keeping us in close touch with the needs of the world's mining industries. With resources exceeding 27,000,000,000 we can respond to the requirements of any project with Eurodollar and local currency financing.

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4 Moorgate London EC2



ng, LONDON METAL EXCHANGE III

Prices remain low

On this and the next page JOHN EDWARDS outlines the current supply and demand situation for the metals traded on the Exchange.

ZINC

Zinc is one of the few base metals whose price has actually been increased in the past 18 months. This is not because zinc has not suffered like the rest from depressed demand and surplus supplies, but because its price is fixed by producers, who to a certain extent are able to defy the free market trends. In fact zinc was one of the first metals to be hit by the recession in the U.S. economy, and a further body blow was administered by the General Motors strike at the end of 1970. In the U.S. particularly, where zinc is used much more by the car industry than in Europe, consumption is very sensitive to industrial conditions generally and is a good indicator of the likely future trends for other metals. However, although zinc prices have shown definite signs of firming in recent months, and surplus stocks are falling rapidly, this has been caused more by severe cutbacks in production both in America and Europe, which are now beginning to have an effect.

it might have been justified by circumstances. In the event the producers' decision to hold on was a wise one. By May production had been cut sufficiently to remove much of the surplus and the producers were able to raise their fixed quotation very far from the Rotterdam warehouse, so the price he is willing to pay must take into account the high cost of removing and transporting it.

Since it is "seller's option" in LME dealings, any buyer is faced with having to take delivery from the Rotterdam warehouse—the first rise for about 18 months, a period when costs of production had increased dramatically.

Even with the big increase in price, some producers feel that an uneconomic price is being charged and that they are still suffering from a desire to stabilise the market that meant not taking full advantage of the boom period in 1968/69. Be that as it may, the fact is that the new price of £150 a ton is being heavily discounted on the Continent, and at one time the LME cash quotation was as low as £120 a ton—an unheard of discount of £30 a ton. LME values have recently come shooting up, with the revival of some demand and delay in shipments of fresh supplies to LME warehouses, but "free" zinc is still available at a considerable discount to the fixed producer quotation.

One of the problems confronting the LME market is that it was felt that a price cut simply could not be afforded however because of the different charges now beginning to have an effect.

EEC entry —(Cont'd)

Continued from previous page

an advantage to those on the method of taxing consumption—management of the LME who new to us in the U.K.—does not mention to bring further business to the market.

Though not strictly speaking, directly an effect of our likely entry into the EEC, value added tax ought to be taken into this particular reckoning. Its advent is undoubtedly with EEC membership and subsequent harmonisation in mind. Here, from the standpoint of the LME, much new ground has had to be broken. While various continental countries have operated VAT for some time, none of them possesses a market structure comparable to the LME. Representatives of HM Customs and Excise, who are to be considered as something without precedent. In a sense, to be consulted and have proved to deliberations so far, and will thus to start from scratch be extremely helpful and concourse remain so as we take a fuller extent than we have previously known.

A complete exercise has been undertaken, and the effect of adjustments to the accounting period.

Other areas

With so much of the metal market directly or indirectly as the whole range of LME activities. Through the British Federation of Commodity Associations and the British Non-Ferrous Metals Federation, who traded on the LME and so many have themselves been conducting investigations on behalf of their members, we have kept a pricing medium, coming from the interests which use the market directly or indirectly as far as possible. There is no insuperable obstacle to this entailed in our entering the Community. Indeed, there may well prove to be consequential advantages to all concerned, with the LME bridging the gap between the EEC merchants and consumers and the producers and merchants in other areas to a greater extent than we have previously known.



The Exchange has been established in its present premises in Whittington Avenue at the entrance to Leadenhall Market since 1882.

TIN

A steady decline has taken tin prices to the lowest level since April, 1968, recently and fairly close to the "floor" of £1,350 a ton fixed under the International Tin Agreement. In fact the present cash price of around £1,400 a ton is only being sustained by support buying by the buffer stock of the International Tin Agreement, but it has plenty of resources at its disposal to prevent any further erosion in values. At last week's meeting of the International Tin Council authority was given to call up further instalments of the total contribution of the cash equivalent of 20,000 tons of tin pledged by the producing countries to finance the buffer stock. An initial contribution of 7,500 tons of tin was made at the start of the Fourth Tin Agreement in July, but a big proportion of this was spent immediately on buying up the 2,682 tons carried over by the buffer stock from the Third Agreement at the current price then of around £1,440 a ton. Since then the buffer stock has had to buy a fair amount to hold prices just above £1,400. It, therefore, makes sense that the second contribution of 7,500 tons should be easily available if required.

Buffer stock

For the producing countries, most of whom are developing areas, the financing of the buffer stock has been made much easier by the agreement of the International Monetary Fund to advance the necessary funds. At the same time an important change in the Fourth Agreement is that the buffer stock is now allowed to operate on the Continent, for some higher quality grades of zinc, there does not appear to be any great improvement in consumption generally. Indeed the consumption figures still make gloomy reading.

However, once consumption does start to pick up, the sharp cutbacks in production, with many plants closed down never to open again, could well mean that a shortage of zinc could develop temporarily at least in the not too distant future and the producers' hopes of higher prices be realised.

Future threatened

At the same time lead has been depressed by the threat to its future posed by the anti-pollution moves in the U.S. and elsewhere aimed at removing lead additives from petrol.

Consumption of lead has not been hit as hard as other metals by the general economic

malaise, however. Its main total lead sales, but they are

in batteries, which are a far bigger percentage in the

U.S. In addition petrol is one

example, whether the car is old

where there is virtually no

scrap recovery and mainly the

top quality grades are used.

Argue as they may that lead

is being unfairly labelled as the

pollution villain, most producers

are now resigned to losing a big

proportion of this valuable mar-

ket in the years ahead. It is true

that the anti-pollution policy

generally has been at a sur-

prisingly high level, with the

demand for lead in batteries,

coming on stream of the big

but the high scrap recovery pos-

either only to buy in the lower

sector or sell in the upper

sector. This means that the

buffer stock does not need to

worry about over-supporting the

market by buying up too much,

because it can now dispose of

surplus holdings back onto the

market without having to wait

for prices to rise to the upper

sector.

At the moment the supply/

demand position for tin seems

to be fairly evenly balanced

with a slight surplus as a result

of consumption being at a low

ebb, especially in the U.S. where

tinplate is losing ground to

rival materials and industrial

activity is depressed.

As a result for the moment

at least the producing countries

have been unable to press their

case for another rise in the tin

price ranges under the Agree-

Continued on next page

BMIC + HG = AMIC



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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE IV

COPPER

Prices at the lowest level for future supplies removed was the 300,000 tons four years, and stocks in the London Metal Exchange warehouses at record levels, summarise harshly the present state of the copper market. Surplus supplies caused by rising production meeting extremely depressed demand has steadily forced values down and down, even though there have been brief periods of price upsurges.

The failure of the U.S. economy to revive, which has depressed industrial demand for metals all over the world has been the underlying factor throughout the past year. There were predictions at the end of 1970 that 1971, or at least the second half of 1971, would be the time for recovery after the decline of consumption in 1970.

But these optimistic hopes have not been fulfilled so far, and predictions that surplus supplies of copper are likely to mine output were lost, although last until 1975 are looking the more likely to be correct.

One big uncertainty about

the lowest level for future supplies removed was the 300,000 tons of new three-year labour contracts for the U.S. strike, but the expected huge riding all these declines in the general decrease in industrial activity. But over-supply was the continued

Scrap output in the main consuming areas was down in line with the general decrease in industrial activity. But over-supply was the continued

depression in industrial demand

and plans to bring the giant Bougainville mine in Papua/New Guinea on stream next year.

Now that the U.S. strike is over, there is every likelihood of increased world copper output next year, with production in Canada, Australia and the Congo in particular going ahead and plans to bring the giant Bougainville mine in Papua/New Guinea on stream next year.

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Copper dispute

In fact the U.S. copper workers' strike did not last long, although some disputes were not finally settled until the end of September, and only an estimated 150,000 short tons of supplies of copper are likely to mine output were lost, although last until 1975 are looking the more likely to be correct.

One big uncertainty about

the lowest level for future supplies removed was the 300,000 tons of new three-year labour contracts for the U.S. strike, but the expected huge riding all these declines in the general decrease in industrial activity. But over-supply was the continued

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Stocks build-up

The build-up in the LME warehouse stocks to a record total of over 128,000 tons illustrates the policy of consumers

keeping their stocks at low

levels and relying on hand-to-

month purchases for any residual supplies that might be required.

There are some faint signs that the long-awaited recovery in the U.S. economy is not too far away now, although a settlement of the present uncertain currency rates and removal of the U.S. imports surcharge will be needed to bring any substantial recovery in world copper smelters to avoid the steady build-up in surplus stocks caused by sluggish domestic copper values.

SILVER

Nothing it seems will end the during the currency crisis, fall the contango (that is, the steady, clear evidence that forward price being higher than the cash quotation), has taken the market down to the level of four and a half years to the normal supply and demand influences.

Boom period

However, it was the basic Treasury must buy up at \$12.80 supply-demand situation of any new domestically-mined silver that encouraged much of silver offered it. But this period of the year only applies to the investment in the new boom period in 1968, when huge produced U.S. silver, which

finally stopped selling silver at a fixed price of 129.3 cents a troy ounce and allowed a free market to develop.

In the post-devaluation sterling era in 1968, silver values reached a high of 110p an ounce; now the cash quotation is fighting to stay above 55p.

The final collapse in values came during September this year when the currency crisis, triggered off by the virtual devaluation of the U.S. dollar, gave final proof that silver was no longer a sound investment for

any changes in international exchange rates.

U.S. investors in particular were very disillusioned when silver prices, instead of rising

sustained recovery.

With these huge stocks, consumption would inevitably where and the huge stocks held

force prices up in the years up over the centuries in silver ahead, with the need to rely on coinage and jewellery.

With these huge stocks, consumption suffered during the past two years as a result of the industrial slow-down generally and improved techniques in recovering silver previously used.

The lack of demand, even after the U.S. Treasury stopped making its weekly sales last November, has proved a considerable disappointment to investors hoping that their stocks would rise in value as consumers were forced to come to the market for their requirements.

As a result investors, faced with a considerable loss on their holdings, eventually ran out of patience and decided to sell out, especially when the currency crisis proved such a disappointment in raising prices.

Once the decline started it quickly gathered pace as the losses faced by stockholders mounted in volume. In addition "short" selling by speculators, taking advantage of the situation and

Rise unlikely

For the moment steep rise

in silver price seems unlikely to say the least, with so many disillusioned investors still waiting for the moment to cut their losses, but once a steady upward trend does develop and the weaker speculators are eliminated, the market could take off.

The continually falling prices

have not been the best conditions for establishing a successful silver market on the London Metal Exchange, since a "bear" market is not much of an attraction to speculators. The awkward

seven month contract, agreed as a compromise, does not help either.

Changes in the LME could

extend it to 13 months ahead like the New York market, have been discussed for some time and would certainly help to boost activity. However, it is not

likely to be a real success until silver prices start to rise again.

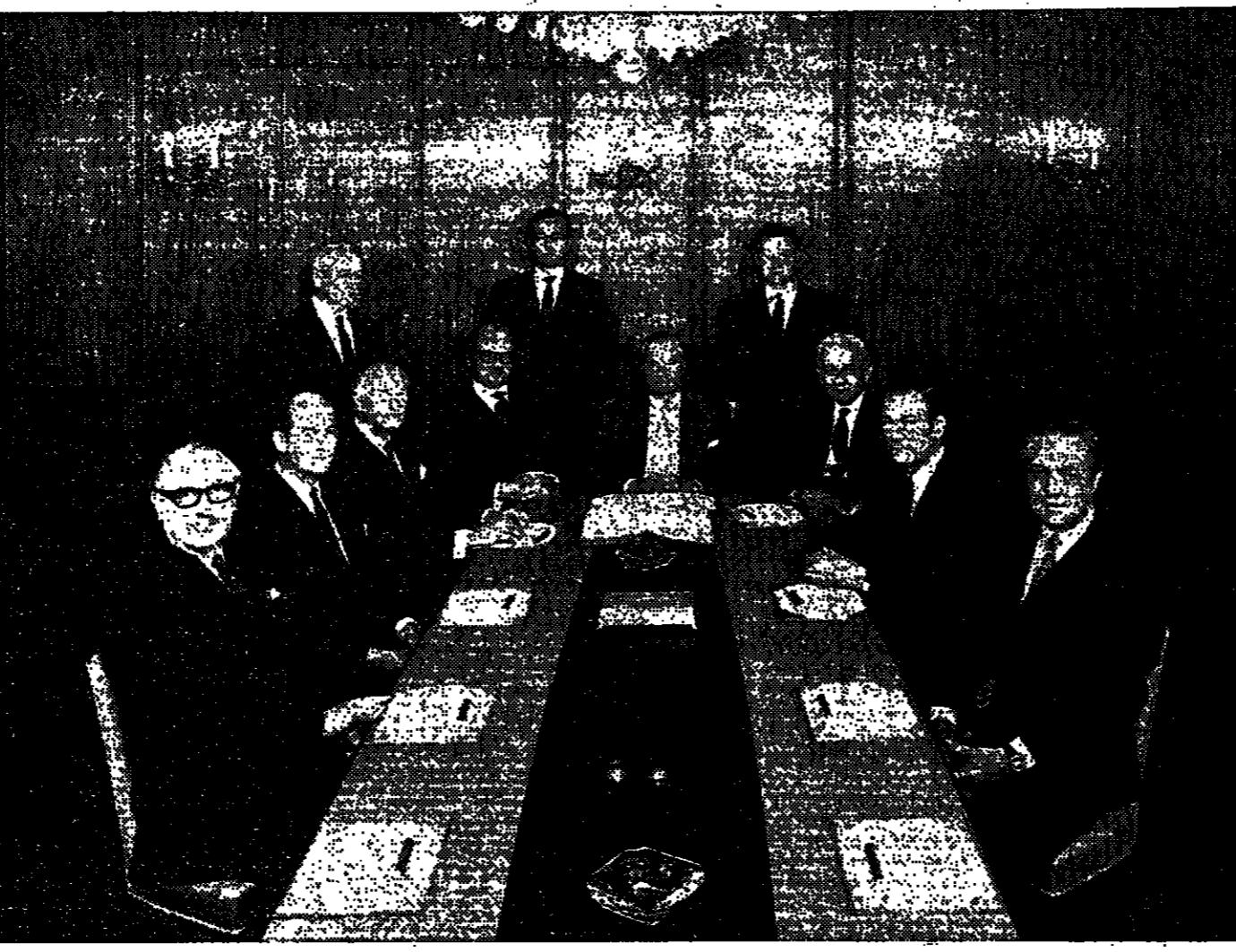
TIN (CONT'D.)

Continued from previous page

passing over control of its stockpile to the International Tin Council.

The producers argue that since the last rise in the price range levels last October, which was the first increase for four years, tin mining costs have continued to escalate rapidly. It was hoped that a new Agreement would also see new price ranges, but the consumers are at present in no mood to talk about paying more for their tin.

The new Agreement, which came into force on July 1, is stronger than its predecessor in that the consumer membership has been expanded to include Russia and West Germany, two important additions to the influence of the Tin Council. The only significant non-member left now is the U.S., which is the world's biggest consumer of tin, holding in addition a huge strategic stockpile that remains a constant threat to the stability of the world tin market. It was hoped that the entry of Russia into the Tin Agreement might persuade the U.S. to join too in controlling the destiny of one of the few metals in which it has to rely solely on imports. But the U.S. Congress has a natural antipathy to joining commodity pacts and would be averse to any more.



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Vehicle and General Tribunal of Inquiry

John Follows denies intent to injure V & G

ALLEGATIONS that Mr. John Follows, a 35-year-old member of Lloyds, had approached the Fraud Squad and the Department of Trade and Industry with intent to injure the Vehicle and General Insurance Company were wholly without foundation, it was claimed yesterday.

Mr. Follows' denial was made in a letter from a firm of City solicitors read to the Tribunal inquiring into the collapse of the V & G Company.

The allegations had been made by Mr. Anthony Hunt, the company's managing director, said Mr. John Arnold, Q.C., for the Tribunal.

The letter was signed by Mr. Cyril Russell, Charles Russell and Co., Lincoln Inn.

Mr. Follows, a re-insurance expert lives at Henham, near Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

Mr. Arnold told the Tribunal: "You will see that there is a matter concerning Mr. Follows which has been the subject of representations by Mr. Follows to the police and/or the D.T.I."

Difficulty

Mr. Arnold said that the difficulty was that this was not a matter which came within the Tribunal's terms of reference, and therefore there was no reasonable likelihood of them granting an application by Mr. Follows to be heard as a witness. Mr. Follows' solicitors had admitted to Mr. Arnold that he wanted to "see the relevant passage."

The letter said: "You know that Mr. John Follows has sought my advice in regard to his position vis-à-vis the Vehicle & General Inquiry, during the course of which his name has dropped up from time to time."

He appreciates that his connection with the Vehicle and General Insurance Company is not a matter of any great interest to the Tribunal, having regard to the opposition he would give, an

opportunity would be given, if necessary, to bear in mind if it was felt necessary in the interest of the persons he represented.

Mr. James Evans, on behalf of Mr. John Barry, editor of the "Insight Team" on the Sunday Times and Times Newspapers, dealt with an article about V & G in the Sunday Times on March 7.

The article alleged that a critical factor in the D.T.I.'s inaction over the V & G affair was political "hands off" directive to inspectors, in the Companies and Insurance Department of the Ministry.

In giving evidence Mr. Barry declined to reveal the sources of his information in the article.

He said: "The Tribunal would be on the basis that Mr. Barry had been misled and had not been guilty of bad faith."

He expressed hope that the Tribunal findings would be on the basis that Mr. Barry had been misled and had not been guilty of bad faith.

Mr. Richard Hartley, for Bleasby and Co., V & G's auditors, submitted that the accounts of V & G were audited both thoroughly and properly. They had heard that the arrival of the computer produced "an utter shambles."

He said that because of this in 1968 various alterations had to be made to figures given by the computer and others had to be added. "This is evidence of the care these auditors took to produce a fair and accurate statement."

Mr. Hartley said another matter of great importance was the question of the value of the outstanding claims. Evidence had been given that the auditors were bound to accept what was supplied to them by the experienced estimators employed by V & G. He contended that it would have been quite wrong for the auditors, unless they had cogent evidence to the contrary, to have compromised their estimate on that of these very experienced persons.

This he alleged, gave a "golden opportunity" for the British Insurance Association to "come out in" and put in a firm of accountants.

He had told the Tribunal that those accountants came up with a figure of £100m. This was "quite crazy."

Mr. Hunt then went on to allege that Mr. Follows had the matter referred to the Fraud Squad, suggesting that V & G had done something incorrect and he had arranged to get the City police to do an investigation.

At the start of his final speech Mr. Peter Webster, Q.C., for the Department of Trade and Industry, referred to a memorandum signed by six officials of the Department who had given evidence, which had been submitted to the Tribunal today. The memorandum referred to an outline given yesterday by Mr. Arnold, Q.C., counsel for V & G, in which the allegations he had made in his final submission against the Department had been described as "wholly untrue."

He had told the Tribunal that these accusations came up with a figure of £100m. This was "quite crazy."

Mr. Follows had the matter referred to the Fraud Squad, suggesting that V & G had done something incorrect and he had arranged to get the City police to do an investigation.

It also asked that Mr. Webster would not make his final submission until either they had been given an opportunity of making observations on such statements and the order in which the evidence was given.

Important

He said there was no intention or desire on the part of the association to use the inquiry as a forum to criticise the D.T.I.'s handling of its responsibility in relation to the V & G company.

Mr. Threlfall said it was of very substantial public importance that cordial relations and good channels of communication should exist between the BIA and the D.T.I. The supervisory function of the Department could not be exercised in a wholly satisfactory manner if the D.T.I. was isolated from the market.

Dealing with the question of suggestions of lack of co-operation, between the BIA and the D.T.I. Mr. Threlfall suggested that the association should be represented by taking a sensible look at the background. One started off, he said, with the BIA which was a trade association concerned with the interest of British insurance companies conducting business all over the world.

It also asked that Mr. Webster would not make his final submission until either they had been given an opportunity of making observations on such statements and the order in which the evidence was given.

Application

Mr. Webster asked that in the circumstances the Tribunal should allow his final speech to be implemented if necessary. He stated that after taking instructions from his clients, they could be given an opportunity, for Mr. Arnold's speech, to consider and make any reply they might make.

Mr. Arnold explained that he would be relying on the evidence of the documents and nothing else.

After a short adjournment, the chairman, Mr. Justice James, said

the application was made on the basis that the Tribunal had invited the signatures of the Fraud Squad and the Department of Trade and Industry with intent to injure the Vehicle and General Insurance Company were wholly without foundation, it was claimed yesterday.

Mr. Follows' denial was made in a letter from a firm of City solicitors read to the Tribunal inquiring into the collapse of the V & G Company.

He pointed out that before the Tribunal started sitting, the Treasury Solicitor wrote a letter to the D.T.I. on June 18 setting out what at that stage it was understood might arise as issues.

The letter was signed by Mr. Cyril Russell, Charles Russell and Co., Lincoln Inn.

Mr. Follows, a re-insurance expert lives at Henham, near Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

Mr. Arnold told the Tribunal:

"You will see that there is a matter concerning Mr. Follows which has been the subject of representations by Mr. Follows to the police and/or the D.T.I."

Difficulty

Mr. Arnold said that the difficulty was that this was not a matter which came within the Tribunal's terms of reference, and therefore there was no reasonable likelihood of them granting an application by Mr. Follows to be heard as a witness. Mr. Follows' solicitors had admitted to Mr. Arnold that he wanted to "see the relevant passage."

Open minds

He added: "Let everybody be assured we still have open minds. We have come to no conclusions on any of the issues."

The Tribunal felt there was no justification for departing from precedents that counsel for the tribunal should have the final speech. But after Mr. Webster had concluded his speech, an opportunity would be given, an opportunity would be given, if necessary if they had been looked at critically.

There should be no apprehension at all in the mind of anybody as to what allegations are made either as to the system or as to individual conduct," said Mr. Justice James.

The reference in the memorandum to the Salmon Report did not seem to be applicable in the circumstances. It was the tribunal's duty to inquire into previous conduct, and they appreciated that people might quite reasonably be apprehensive and nervous if they had been looked at critically.

Mr. Threlfall said that although they may have taken comfort from the original admission of V & G to membership the D.T.I. could hardly take comfort from the continuance of that admission.

He said that when the Tribunal was looking at the problem of the admission of a company to membership of the BIA it was necessary to bear in mind a number of considerations.

A to the continuance of the company in membership the D.T.I. he said, must surely have recognised that the sanction of expulsion, the only sanction available to the association, would have been tantamount to a sentence of death on the company.

Mr. Threlfall said that although they may have taken comfort from the original admission of V & G to membership the D.T.I. could hardly take comfort from the continuance of that admission.

He said that when the Tribunal was looking at the problem of the admission of a company to membership of the BIA it was necessary to bear in mind a number of considerations.

He hoped the Tribunal would not underrate the difficulties arising in relation to an association of competitors, of taking action against individual members which might involve the disclosure of confidential trading information.

Mr. Threlfall said that on the evidence, the BIA did not put any obstacle in the way of the D.T.I. performing its functions. The association did not mislead the department into not taking action where action was called for.

Therefore if the Tribunal were to conclude there was some failure on the part of the Department to perform to the standard to be expected, then the Department could not rely on the BIA as an excuse.

Zealous

Mr. Peter Webster, Q.C., for the Department, said it was his function to speak in defence of the D.T.I. and its officers. Each of these officers, very far from being negligent, had been throughout hard-working, highly conscientious, and indeed zealous.

He would not like it to be thought that in making that submission he was merely subscribing to some contention, he said.

He submitted that most, if not all, the officers concerned had during the inquiry been grievously misunderstood.

He was not criticising anybody for this. That they should have been misunderstood was an almost inevitable consequence of the inherent nature of the inquiry and its terms of reference and in particular because of the order in which the evidence was given.

Provocative

Mr. Threlfall said it was of very great importance that the D.T.I. and its officers. Each of these officers, very far from being negligent, had been throughout hard-working, highly conscientious, and indeed zealous.

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Inevitable

In relation to the end to be achieved that was to see the detection of potential insolvents and the maintenance of the stability and solvency of companies in the industry and also to maintain the good name and prestige throughout the world of the British insurance industry.

Therefore, he submitted, the interests of the BIA and the D.T.I. must be at one because the Department must necessarily be concerned to safeguard policyholders and the good name of the British insurance industry.

And, added Mr. Threlfall, their members concerned to be what their interests might run counter to what a Government Department with supervisory powers might think to be appropriate for the purpose of their department.

The Tribunal was adjourned.



Lord Stokes, chairman of British Leyland, in conversation with Princess Alexandra, who officially opened the Motor Show at Earls Court, London, yesterday. On the right is Mr. Angus Ogilvy.

Ezra urges summit on human needs in enlarged Market

A SUMMIT meeting to consider the serious social and human implications of an enlarged Community Market as soon as possible was urged by Mr. Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board, at a London conference yesterday.

He told an international audience attending a conference entitled "Industry, Technology and the European Communities," organised by the Federal Trust for Education and Research, that industrial and technological changes within an enlarged EEC

experience

To achieve this reduction without causing human hardship, the NCB worked hard to offer re-employment through their own industry and with the co-operation of local authorities and central Government. Additionally, the Board provided redundancy allowances for people over 55 with disabilities. Ending alternative employment, through the re-location of many enterprises.

These factors could seriously affect particular areas of the Community. Britain would be the largest coal-producing country in the enlarged Community and demand for coal exceeded the capacity of the industry in the EEC, which at present imported 30m. tons a year.

In addition, Britain would be in a position to press for an effective European energy policy to make the enlarged Community more self-sufficient.

Mr. Ezra said the general feeling for the coal industry in an enlarged Common Market were good. Britain would be the largest coal-producing country in the enlarged Community and demand for coal exceeded the capacity of the industry in the EEC.

He was convinced that Britain's entry would result in increased national and individual earnings and a rise in the standard of living. In the process of getting these improvements there would be a massive drive of industrial restructuring. He had to see a great deal of cross-frontier mobility of labour in Europe.

One area where member countries could gain enormous benefit was in the interchange of management.

The conference concluded.

RCA chief's plea for new world monetary structure now

BY TED SCHOETERS

ALL NATIONS are seeking a balanced trade, built upon a pattern of nation-states could possibly set up a widely integrated economic structure without broader political integration. "None appears ready to put its trust to this extent in foreigners— even though we are all required to most of mankind," he quipped.

But the most successful business enterprises, whatever country they came from, were truly international, not only in geography, but also in philosophy and management.

He deduced that the likely path of economic evolution was towards new and larger groupings on every continent and between countries, and between technology advanced. The next logical step would be towards some form of political federation.

This does mean that it will be vital to get a correct regional policy. The centre of the Community is bound to move towards its physical centre. This means the German, Dutch, Belgian and North French industrial conurbation.

The peripheral areas among the various member countries are obviously going to be adversely affected by this trend towards the centre of the operation," said Mr. Ezra.

There were already serious regional problems among member countries which could be exacerbated unless suitable measures were undertaken.

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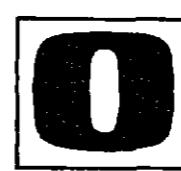
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Advertising and...

**Get medals at
Cleveland**

TO-MORROW a new twist in petroleum coin promotions comes from Cleveland. On 2,000 of its major garage sites motorists will be able to pick up reproductions of British army campaign medals. There are 16 in the set and to prevent outraged letters from old soldiers who won medals for gallantry the Cleveland medals will represent campaigns fought by the army between 1793-1945.

Research suggests that there is considerable interest in things historical and Cleveland hopes this promotion will also appeal to girls. To sweeten the garage owners there is a campaign brochure which they can sell at a profit for 20p.

Cleveland, with just under 5 per cent of the petrol market, arranges to make its sales drives in the autumn when the majors' campaigns are drawing to an end. Now there will be £100,000 in TV support from Ayala, tomorrow and marketing consultants are looking for around the 10 per cent increase in sales achieved in the last Cleveland promotion which featured model footballers—as did the simultaneous promotion from competitor Total. This time it hopes to have the field to itself.



MARK MALEY

The pub goes global

BY ANTONY THORNCROFT

**First steps
in Europe**

IN DECEMBER a nice old-fashioned Victorian-type pub, the Cockney Pride, will throw open its doors—in Chicago. It will be the latest of a throng of British pubs that are cropping up throughout the world. About 70 per cent of them come from Ayala Designs, which was asked to produce a pub for the British Week in Tel Aviv in 1966 and has not looked back since.

There are now 80 Ayala designed and manufactured pubs and restaurants open for business. The latest, the Golden Hind, was part of this month's British Week in San Francisco and as soon as that finished the pub was snapped up by a local restauranteur for replanting elsewhere in California. For in its first nine days it sold almost 3,000 pints of beer and took \$6,000 daily.

Young and Rubicam Inc., with world-wide billings of \$522m, last year, is to change its name to Young and Rubicam International Inc. from January 1.

The reason for the change is that by the end of the decade the agency expects over 50 per cent of its activity to be outside the U.S.

Some of the effects—the horse brasses, the muskets, the chandeliers and prints—are originals, but if Maley can't buy the real thing, or if they are too costly, the factory at Stowmarket will make them.

There is a heavy demand for British "atmosphere." Turnover is already over the £500,000 mark and the commissions are rolling in, at prices ranging from £3,500 to £70,000. And Maley has a certain winner for the Christmas trade—a bar which can be installed in the home for about £600.

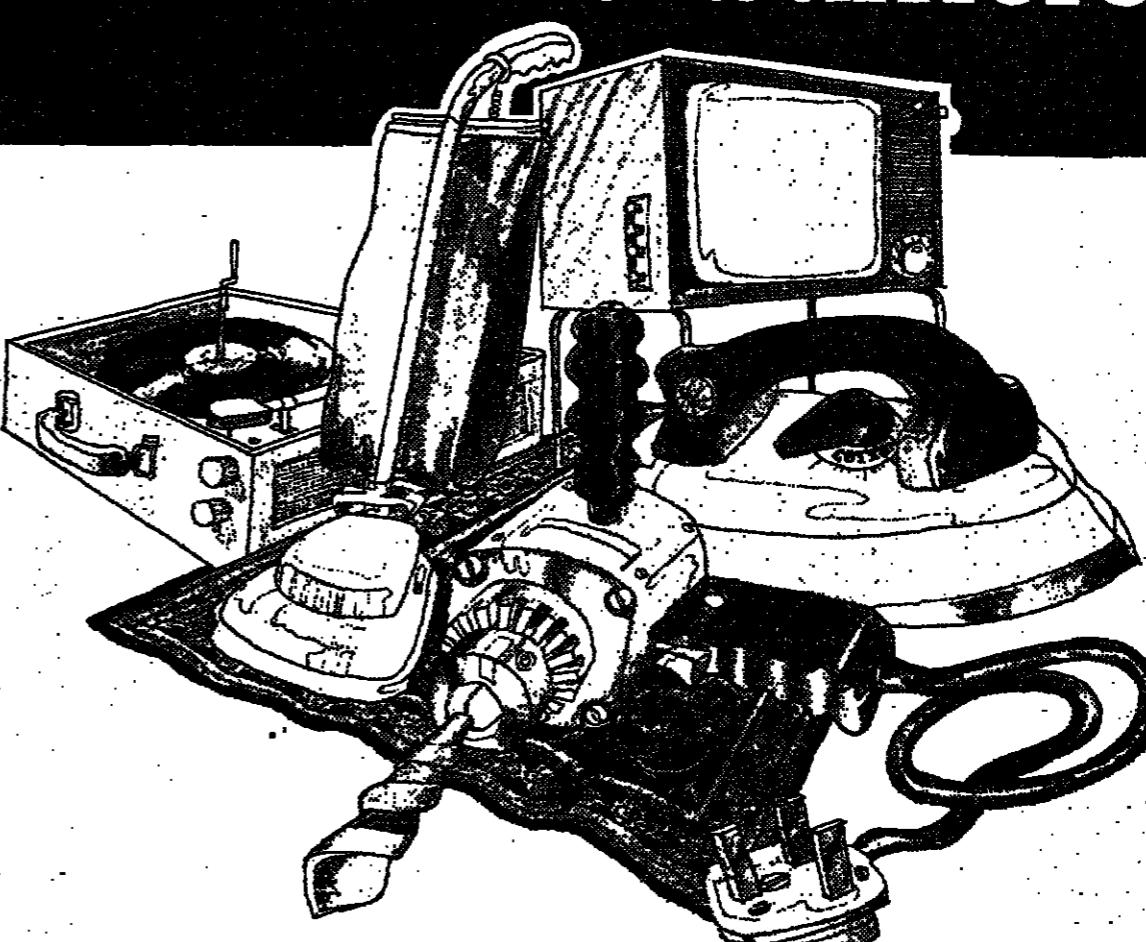
At the start, Ayala worked closely with the brewers, particularly Watneys, Bass and Allied, who are energetically expanding abroad. Now it tips the wink to the brewers if an American catering chain buys a pub. Maley obviously wants to progress beyond pubs. Restaurants are the next stage, but the company is already designing chalets for Turkey, and there may eventually be a market for reproductions of complete shopping arcades. And although the activity is currently overseas, the company's sales office at Ickenham, Middlesex, has already produced a pub for Watneys in the U.S.

The move is also significant outside the agency. With advertising billings generally down over the last couple of years, more and more London agencies have either been trying to persuade the clients of provincial agencies to move south or have been actively looking over material.

All Y.T. and R's media planning and administrative work will be done in Manchester where costs are that much lower. "The more we save on this side of advertising, the more we can spend on creative talent."

The
visible
product

**Link your consumer
durables to our
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If your company manufactures
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It's common sense: for Yellow Pages are a major link with your potential customers—right at the point of contact—right by their phones—right at the moment they're about to buy.

Yellow Pages are spending a lot of money encouraging people to ring round for information on prices, availability, delivery dates and so on.

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The Marketing Scene

Mohammed Ali and

Ovaltine's knock-out punch

BY ANTONY THORNCROFT, MARKETING EDITOR

"This stuff is so good you could get the Pope to promote it." The "stuff" is Ovaltine, the speaker is Mohammed Ali who, it should not have escaped anyone's notice, is currently over here to push Ovaltine. What on earth has the former heavyweight champion of the world got to do with a product which has traditionally had a rather cosy nocturnal image? That is the inevitable question. And the inevitable answer is that under a fairly new chief executive and marketing team Ovaltine is doing its level best to galvanise its image and to widen the range of its products. No more Ovaltines or sponsorship of ballroom dancing.

Mutual friend

The soaring of Mohammed Ali is very much a personal triumph for Edwin Godden who came from Beecham to run Ovaltine three years ago. He knew that the boxer actually drank the product and that they shared a mutual friend. More to the point he knew Mohammed Ali was revered in Africa and that Nigeria, one of Ovaltine's main overseas markets, had been virtually closed since the civil war. So initially Mohammed Ali was to reactivate the company's sales effort in its third largest market (after the U.K. and, of course, Thailand).

But Godden was also well aware that if he could sell to Ali the idea of a week's promotional tour of Nigeria it would not be difficult to tag on an extra week or so in the U.K. to coincide with the introduction to the trade of two new products. "Our reception in Nigeria has more than repaid the cost of the whole trip," says Godden. All and Ovaltine received a rapturous welcome which included an audience with the premier, General Gowon. Not only were the front pages full of the product and its promoter but the Nigerians appreciated the gesture and Godden was able to make presentations of Ovaltine's virtues to such large potential buyers as the army and the refugee authorities. Sales next year should be even higher than the pre-civil war level.

In Nigeria Ovaltine has an image of conveying energy and strength; Ali conveys much the same image. The overall aim was to get this message to the consumers. The campaign in the U.K. was rather more subtle. Here the main areas of attention were the big retail groups. In the past two years Godden has



MOHAMMED ALI

reduced the importance to A. Wunder, the manufacturing company of the single product Ovaltine from 95 per cent to nearer 50 per cent. New products like Instant Milk and Coffee Time have been successfully introduced.

As soon as Godden knew he had Ali he pushed forward by a month the introduction of yet another new product, Chocolate Time Extra, and decided to extend Coffee Time to the north of the country. In the past week there have been two rather grand occasions for the grocery trade where Ali has done his stuff and everyone has enjoyed themselves. Even Sir John Cohen of Tesco, who must have been to more new product presentations than anyone, says "this is the most impressive I have attended."

But Mohammed Ali not only wowed the retail buyers. He has appeared in the main regional television regions in leading grocery stores—Tesco, a Fine Fare and (a breakthrough here) even a J. Sainsbury. The cameras have taken the Ovaltine name into millions of homes and know whether he is right.

When Donovan first made the move from still photography into television direction he used Garrett's centralised financial and processing departments. The link was the first of several such satellite operations set up by Garrett, and was seen as the likely way for Garrett to expand.

But Terence Donovan says the agreement was only planned to last four years. Now the company is established in its own right, with Ross Cramer, Charles Saatchi's former partner, working exclusively for the company. Both sides say the parting was amicable.

James Garrett and Terence Donovan, one of advertising's best known television directors, are ending their four-year agreement by which Garrett had a 50 per cent stake in Terence Donovan Productions, writes Elinor Goodman. Though details of the split have not yet been finalised, it is expected that by the end of the year Donovan will be a completely independent company.

Both, too, fell into the category of middle-size agencies in London—S and B's London agency, LPA, for instance billed around £2m. last year—and both felt they needed to trade separately for the time being under the umbrella of Royds Advertising group. Surprisingly perhaps Royds is not taking up Stowe and Bowden's public quotation. "We don't feel that an advertising agency is necessarily best run as a public company," says Dennis Caldecourt, the group managing director.

Doyle Dane pounces

—at last

BY PAMELA JUDGE

AN EBULLIENT John Pringle coming out which would have a market in Europe as well as the U.K. then clients would be more likely to look at us than local agencies.

Apparently it was some two months ago that John Pringle approached Tom Gallagher.

Gallagher has always kept his options open and has been "going down" approaches almost daily.

He (and others) started his agency in 1965 and it now has some £3m. Of the reasons for the sale he said he thought there had been "three significant men in advertising since the war—Leo Burnett, David Ogilvy and Bill Bernbach." It will also give him and his senior team a forecast a £60,000 U.K. profit this year.

Integration of the 123 staff (handing some £5m. billings) should take some two-three months.

Possibly GS will move up to Baker Street from Bromley Road, but it might be a case of both moving into a totally different building.

Consolidation then, will take them out of the new business race for a time. And John Pringle, who is to stay as chairman, but eventually being a non-executive chairman, said the policy will still be the same:

"No tobacco business and no speculative campaigns." Speculative presentations were another question.

Speculative campaigns, said Pringle, were silly, bad policy, only done to impress one or two people, bad for agency morale if you didn't win since so many people were involved and anyway but enlarged to number about 16. And there will be "no

redundancies."

Joining the DDB network takes Tom Gallagher into the international league. "No clients have been pressing for this. But

if there were new products

Small one, will be adopted—that

... And one for Royds

Like that between Doyle Royds, London, which will become the main consumer agency for the group. About £600,000 worth of LPA's business, however, will continue to be handled separately by LPA/Two Southcombe, including Datsun cars and Ferodo. Michael Robinson, chairman and joint managing director of LPA, will become vice-chairman and joint managing director of Royds London, and about 25 members of LPA's existing staff will move to Royds.

In Manchester, however, where both groups currently have agencies, the two will continue to trade separately for the time being under the umbrella of Royds Advertising group.

Surprisingly perhaps Royds is not taking up Stowe and Bowden's public quotation. "We don't feel that an advertising agency is necessarily best run as a public company," says Dennis Caldecourt, the group managing director.

● Latest in the list of agencies setting up recruitment advertising divisions is Benton and Bowles. The agency has been involved in this field for some 10 years and billed around £250,000 from it last year. Leading the operation are Alan Smith, formerly managing director of R. F. White, and Roger Barker, who returns to B and B after two years with Charles Barker.

His destiny was the Elysee suite where six of his breed were to be judged to find an assistant for him.

Up in the room the six others—chosen from 450 entries in a contest—and their owners approached the whole thing in their various ways.

As the proceedings got under



JOHN PRINGLE

Help yourself to drinks

BY KENNETH GOODING

ONE trend in the drinks industry that the customer can hardly fail to notice is the switch of more and more conventional off-licences to self-service operations. Currently conversions are proceeding at a rate of around 400 a year, having come down from the peak 1,000 in 1968-69.

A survey carried out by Stats (MR) has provided the reason for the change. It showed that on average the off-licences that converted to self-service increased turnover by 96 per cent. "This estimate is perhaps the strongest indication of the success of this trading method," declared Mr. J. L. Sawle, managing director of Stats (MR) when presenting the results of the study to the Off Licence News seminar "Going for Growth."

Mr. Sawle described self-service off-licences as those in supermarkets growing bigger and bigger to give a wide choice. "Own label" beer will be extended to "own label" spirits in spite of the manufacturers' resistance to this. Wine will come in plastic bottles and wine and spirits sales in the supermarkets "will grow, grow, grow."

This means tougher competition for others in the business. Already the brewers have spotted the advantages of self-service off-licences and, in spite of relatively late entry into the market, are catching up fast. In his study, Mr. Sawle pointed out the brewers now have established roughly the same proportion in self-service off-licences as they hold in terms of total off-licences (just over 30 per cent as measured by turnover).

He also stressed that more research was needed, particularly in the profitable use of space. For example, 20 per cent of the self-service off-licences now have more than one checkout and there is no doubt that they have a higher turnover.

"The total area of our 3,000 self-service off-licences was estimated to be just over 1m. square feet—that is an average of 350 square feet per outlet, which in turn implies a turnover of £5 per square foot on average. This compares with somewhere in the region of £100 per square foot for the bigger self-service grocers," Mr. Sawle pointed out.

For Dash read Digby

BY PAMELA JUDGE

IN THE twin names of publicity and marketing, Dash swept up and marketing, Dash swept up to London's Cafe Royal in a lightish dark-blue Rolls-Royce. His public, quickly recognising their Dulux OE sheep dog, assembled.

His destiny was the Elysee suite where six of his breed were to be judged to find an assistant for him.

Up in the room the six others—chosen from 450 entries in a contest—and their owners approached the whole thing in their various ways.

As the proceedings got under

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John Harding
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Donovan goes independent

James Garrett and Terence Donovan, one of advertising's best known television directors, are ending their four-year agreement by which Garrett had a 50 per cent stake in Terence Donovan Productions, writes Elinor Goodman. Though details of the split have not yet been finalised, it is expected that by the end of the year Donovan will be a completely independent company.

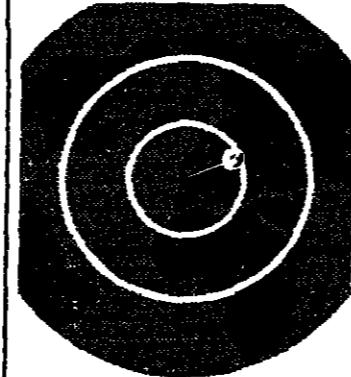
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Mirror

Source NRS
July 1970-June 1971

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THURSDAY OCTOBER 21 1971

Another step forward

IT IS still difficult to know how optimistic to feel about the prospect of securing an early removal of the U.S. import surcharge in return for a general evaluation of currencies against the dollar. When the Ministers of the Group of Ten met in Washington last month, there was a general feeling that the negotiating climate had improved; this feeling was strengthened when Mr. Connally, the Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, told the IMF that the surcharge could be removed in a matter of weeks if other countries were willing to let their currencies appreciate further.

But last week-end he said that the Europeans lacked the political will to reach a settlement, and that he did not expect the coming meetings of Working Party 3 and the Deputies of the Ten to pave the way for an early resolution of the monetary crisis. Reports from Paris during the past couple of days have seemed to confirm this scepticism. Even Dr. Emminger, the vice-president of the Bundesbank and chairman of WP 3, though taking a hopeful view of the outlook, admitted on Tuesday that no agreement had been reached on the size of the swing needed in the U.S. balance of payments: different countries had put different points of view and it was now up to the politicians to negotiate.

Overall figure

The statement made yesterday by Mr. Ossola, the chairman of the Deputies of the Ten, may not seem to take things much further. He said that they had discussed a figure for the desirable improvement in the U.S. balance of payments—estimates of which have ranged from \$13,000m. to under \$5,000m.—and the average revaluation of other currencies against the dollar which this implied; but he also made it clear that the figure used in this exercise was entirely hypothetical. Not only have the governments concerned still to face the immensely difficult task of deciding how much each is willing to give but they have not yet reached agreement on the answer to a preliminary question, what total result they are seeking to bring about. The Ministers

Progress

Although little may seem to have been gained from this week's meetings, therefore, things are moving slowly forward. Like the agreement reached between the U.S. and Japan about textiles and the change of opinion inside the U.S. about a small change in the price of gold, the readiness of the Ten to devise a plan for establishing a new monetary order and then work towards it demonstrates that the situation is not entirely gloomy. There is much difficult ground still to be covered, but at least it is now generally agreed that basic political issues between the U.S. and her partners can be discussed at leisure while the urgent need is to negotiate a removal of the surcharge as soon as possible.

There are two obvious reasons for this. The first is that the closer the election approaches, the more difficult President Nixon will find it to remove the surcharge on domestic grounds. The second is that the longer it remains in force, the greater the risk that import restrictions will spread—as they have already spread to Denmark—and world trade suffer.

Recession comes to Italy

YESTERDAY'S announcement by the Italian Government that the introduction of a value-added tax, scheduled to come into force on January 1, will be postponed for a further six months comes as no surprise. The necessary legislation had been considerably delayed, bound to be hampered by the American surcharge.

The rise in unemployment, ideal circumstances, three months would be a short time to come, to put the new tax system into operation; in view of the unions' notorious inefficiency of the Italian bureaucratic machine, a longer delay was almost inevitable, just on practical grounds. The rise in unemployment and the prospect of a further increase in the months to come, now appears to be having a damping effect on the unions. Over the past two years they have wrung massive increases out of the employers, and in some cases they have carried militancy almost to the point of anarchy. The rise in wage costs and the loss of production has led to a predictable squeeze on company profits, and some of the biggest companies are reported to be making serious losses this year. Understandably union leaders are now on the defensive, more anxious to maintain employment than to exact higher wages, and there are those who argue that next autumn's major wage negotiations will take place in a calmer atmosphere than those of 1969.

Slow recovery

It seems probable, nevertheless, that Italy's economic and political problems will remain serious in 1972. Confindustria, the employers' federation, has forecast that a recovery in the economy will be slow and difficult, and that industrial employment is likely to fall next year. Over the period 1971-74 it expects an acceleration in output to a peak of 6.8 per cent in the final year, but even this figure is well down on the average growth rate of 1967-70 of 7.8 per cent. The Italian miracle may not be over, but it is not what it was. More important, the stagnation of employment can only intensify the social and political stresses which have become so obvious in Italy over the past 12 months, and it is difficult to believe that the creaking political system will be able to muddle through in the old way for very much

As it is, unemployment has passed the million mark, and could go significantly higher before the winter is out, while over 50,000 workers are on short-time and a great many more have seen the end of overtime. The government has introduced two inflationary packages this summer, but the public works appropriations are unlikely to pull the economy out of its recession much before next spring.

Italy's current economic difficulties are exacerbated by

Foreign tourism in Britain is growing more slowly—an important consideration for the country's biggest hotel and catering group, Trust Houses Forte, for which Allied Breweries is considering a bid. Arthur Sandles assesses hotel supply and demand over the next ten years

Hotels: the empty-bed debate

OVER the last couple of weeks the debate over in accommodation in excess of whether or not there will be the estimates made when the be too many hotel rooms in the scheme was launched three years ago.

What their officials have succeeded in doing, however, is greatly to narrow the range of possible options and so bring nearer the time at which meaningful political negotiations can take place. They also seem to have reached general agreement on two other points of practical importance. First, the return to fixed parities will be achieved through a transitional arrangement in which each country will set a "pivotal rate" for its currency around which it will be free to fluctuate by 3 per cent on either side. This arrangement, which is presumably acceptable to the U.S., will make it easier for governments to accept revaluations which must to some extent be arbitrary and experimental. Second, the U.S. has undertaken to move around. Tourism is a fairly rapid reflector of economic confidence, and the higher up the hotel market you go the more immediate the impact.

Back to normal

You may be surprised at what you will be able to pick up in a year or so. A lot of places are planned by speculators and they have done their calculations on very high occupancy rates. His own hotels are all what he loves to describe as "under the bright lights," he will run the new Selfridge Hotel in London's Oxford Street, for example.

It was much the same argument that held back Trust Houses and Fortes, both before and after their merger, in rushing to take advantage of the hotel incentive scheme as well as such old stagers as Mr. Maxwell, Joseph and Grand Metropolitan. THF put a lot of eggs into provincial baskets and Mr. Joseph turned his attention to other commercial fields.

But were they all right? At the moment final work is being done on a Cooper Brothers report on the hotel industry which was commissioned by the Little Neddy. I suspect that this report will indicate that the tourist demands in Britain in the late Seventies will be very high indeed and will outstrip the bedroom capacity that the country is likely to have at that time. Given even the present rate of growth the number of foreign tourists coming to Britain in 1980 will not be far short of 18m. compared with the 8m. or more we may get next year.

Hiccough will be brief

Sir Alexander Glen, the genial chairman of the British Tourist Authority, sees a "hiccup for the hotel business" in 1973-74 when the present flood of hotel building reaches maturity. Given the estimated increase in accommodation to be completed in England in the next 18 months is more than 62,000 bedrooms. "It is clear," says Sir Mark Heng, chairman of the English Tourist Board, "that the environment internationally, the incentives offered by the



Hotels near West London Air Terminal. . . . The last few years have seen a considerable boom in hotel development in areas like Kensington and Bayswater. As Britain moves into a temporary room-surplus position competition will grow fierce and good management will be even more essential.

brief and business will go on to confirm that most of them are in fact going ahead.

There is a strong suspicion that in the business that the "over-capacity" argument is being deliberately stimulated by established hoteliers determined to there to be similar eagerness to announce that they have

frightened off those investors who were tempted by the incentives

It seems clear that without scheme and are now growing numerous withdrawals

and a little hesitant. It is difficult to say who in fact has already pulled out. Sir Mark Heng denies that there have been many "withdrawals" from

original plans, and spot checks

on the British Tourist Authority's painstakingly-com

plete lists of planned projects

have stopped making grants to rabbit clearance societies for killing off rabbits.

The Ministry has just reminded those holding manorial rights on common land that it is now their responsibility to control rabbits.

As rabbits seem to be on the increase again, with the effects of myxomatosis wearing off, this could be an expensive liability.

The problem affects everyone owning land—

the National Trust in the Lake District is said to have a big rabbit problem—but Lords of the

Manor are often least prepared to cope with it.

It will be interesting to see if this leads to a mass renunciation of manorial rights.

For they cannot just be renounced—some one has to take them over. So manorial honours may before long be selling at a discount.

Duty-free for motorists?

Should motorists get the same duty-free concessions when crossing national boundaries as airline passengers get, provided they are out of the country for 24 hours? The answer from most governments is emphatically No.

Apart from the loss of duty-free concessions when genuine travellers, the possibilities of deception are too great—people crossing a border buying their goods and then returning a couple of hours later by another frontier post.

But an American company, Hardwicke, which operates a chain of duty-free shops on the roads from the U.S. into Canada

the 85-90 per cent that a number of hoteliers in London rooms are being perfectly distributed (both highly doubtful assumptions) I estimate that by 1974 Britain will be able to handle 13m. tourists with comfort.

In fact because of the present shortage of rooms and the misplacing of new accommodation we will probably only be able to take 11m. On present trends we will in fact be entering about 10m.

This is going to be an interesting test for the management skills of the hotel groups. Although argument has publicly raged over British hotel prices in recent months, there is little doubt that Britain now has a reputation for expensive accommodation. It is a mantle that London is gradually stealing from Paris. There is no sign that hotel prices are steady. This year a report by Cornwell, Greene, Bertram Smith and Co indicated that U.K. hotel rates rose on average between 6 and 8 per cent during this year.

There are various unknowns which could throw the whole debate further into confusion. Apart from the sizeable economic question mark which still hangs over both the U.S. and Europe, there is the important question of what happens to North Atlantic air fares. If a true open rate situation does emerge the attractions of Europe to the U.S. (and, one should not forget, vice versa) will grow considerably. Very few Americans in fact travel outside the States and lower fares may well encourage them to do so.

But perhaps more important than fares is length of holiday. The bulk of America still enjoys only two weeks vacation a year and this is simply not enough to contemplate a European jaunt. In Europe three weeks is common and four not unusual. American holidays may lengthen over the next few years and open the flood-gates to a new type of traveller. At the same time the European will hardly claim not to be a resort area.

Apart from rate adjustment, managements will have to lean more heavily on their sales departments. In Cannes at the recent meeting of the Association of British Travel Agents there was considerable criticism of British hoteliers for the way in which they dealt with continental travel agents. If this is not the case, then increase in the number of its new circumstances will inevitably favour organisations with an international reputation like the Savoy, the Dorchester, Claridges, and/or international sales organisations like Trust Houses Forte, Grand Metropolitan, Hilton and Sonesta.

But whatever the answer it is obvious that neither the Jonahs nor the optimists in hotel investment will have all the arguments on their side. The future of British tourism, both in the domestic market and from foreigners, depends on a great many factors. In ten years time we may be grateful for the 1971-73 building boom even if the gap between demand and supply? Assuming that we have enough rooms at the moment for our 8m. foreign visitors as well as domestic demand, and assuming that the additional

luxury rates will be nothing like a bit sad.

Depends on many factors

If that proves to be the case, then the emphasis on provincial hotels in which has been seen over the years 1973-74. Some of these new circumstances will inevitably favour organisations with an international reputation like the Savoy, the Dorchester, Claridges, and/or international sales organisations like Trust Houses Forte, Grand Metropolitan, Hilton and Sonesta.

But what will be the size of the gap between demand and supply? Assuming that we have enough rooms at the moment for our 8m. foreign visitors as well as domestic demand, and assuming that the additional

luxury rates will be nothing like a bit sad.

Blue Nun and Covent Garden

It might be Fonteyn. It might be Nureyev. A night at the Garden is always something special. And on these nights, Blue Nun completes the magic. It's a crisp Rhine wine. With a cool elegance that goes with every meal. Slightly chilled, Blue Nun turns a beautiful evening into a memorable one.



SICHELS BLUE NUN ENTERTAINS RIGHT THROUGH THE MEAL

10/21/1971

Observer

COMPANY NEWS + COMMENT

Ductile pays 2½% more: 100% scrip

NIN ADDITION to raising its dividend from 3½ per cent to 40 per cent, with a final of 3½ per cent for the year to July 3, 1971, Ductile Steel proposes to make a one-off scrip issue.

Gross pre-tax profit for the 53 weeks increased to £2,026,575, against a forecast of comparable with the £1,870,971 for the previous year. For the first half it was up from £880,000 to £346,000.

Net profit 1,880,000 1,870,971

Net interest paid 33,435 116,212

Net profit after tax 1,846,565 750,789

Net profit 1,726,063 502,177

Dividends 537,000 504,000

Net profit 1,200,000 250,000

£3 weeks. * Includes a stock profit of approximately £20,000 (£20,000 x 250,000)

For depreciation £15,000 (£20,000 x 250,000)

Net profit 1,175,340 (£223,000)

including £61,000 for provisions 10 longer required due to changes

In the rate of corporation tax

Meeting, at 3.30 p.m., November 15, at Willenhall.

● comment

Following Ductile's cautious interim statement last March, the 21 per cent fall in 1970 in pre-tax profits is above expectations and the shares rose 15½ yesterday to 216p. At the half-way stage the main growth areas were the planetary mill and the "Flo-Coat" tubes division, while the rolling side appeared threatened by the recent Ford strike and the fall in the demand for steel. It seems that all effects of these two have been less severe than was anticipated; and following the recent introduction of the second leg of the "Flo-Coat" system the group could be set for further growth in the current year. So a p.e. of 9.4 may be taking an unnecessarily cautious view of prospects.

Farnell's mid-way increase

GROUP PROFIT before tax of Farnell Electronics expanded from £1,822,331 to £234,411 in the half year to July 31, 1971. The net figure came out at £146,507, against £100,251, after tax of £57,904 (£52,050).

The interim dividend rate is maintained at 7½ per cent on a capital increased by a one-for-five scrip issue—an effective increase of 1½ per cent. A total equivalent to 20.88 per cent was paid for the year to January 31, 1971, on a profit of £50,000.

● comment

Farnell's pre-tax profits rise of 28½ per cent in the first six months is a good guide to the prospects for 1971-72 as a whole. Turnover is expected to go up by at least 30 per cent on maintained margins—these targets to be met without any price increases apart from those put up under franchises, till next March. The profit impetus is probably coming from the distribution side; electronic component users currently may prefer to buy from distribution, rather than the individual in stocks. However, with the general credit relaxation this situation may not last. So Farnell looks

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expand with increased sales, and these activities are being extended to various areas.

First-half attributable profit, after tax of £82,000, was £123,000.

The interim dividend is maintained at 10 per cent. A total of 32 per cent was paid for the 17 months to December 31, 1970.

● comment

Although there are no comparable figures due to a change of accounting period, the account in statement gives a clear picture of Bacal's trading. Hasavier losses than expected have been incurred on some fixed priced contracts for local authorities. The extent of these losses can be gauged from the fact that despite Kottler and Heron exceeding its target and boomish conditions in the period, the group has revised downwards by £50,000. The shares were lowered 4p to 80p on the news, where the maximum p.e. is now 10.9. However, considering the trouble-some contracts have more or less been completed and the rest of the group is clearly doing well, yesterday's share reaction seems sufficient.

ions, the Weir Group is going to be unable to recover the ground lost in 1970 this year. After the interim pre-tax fall of 61 per cent on an 11 per cent sales rise, unchanged annual profits are forecast. Even so, this appears to have been more than the market was expecting and the shares rose 12p to 73p (against a 10½p fall, as such is largely blamed on the group's second largest profit earner—the foundries division

—which has been suffering from a lack of workload on a high level of fixed costs. This in turn follows from the troubles of that division's most important customer—the construction equipment industry—and while a temporary respite is to be welcomed, Weir is not likely to benefit before next Spring. Elsewhere the group has been doing quite well with 1970's two losers recovering, and the all-important pump side (which contributes nearly a third of group profits) moving even further ahead. Although the prospects for 1972 look more hopeful, the present historic p.e. of 9 seems enough to be going on with for the moment.

Statement Page 30

Weir Group sees little change

MUCH THE same results from operations for 1971, as for 1970, with a maintained 22 per cent dividend total, are expected by the directors of the Weir Group, Glasgow-based engineers and builders. The interim dividend is held at 8 per cent.

Last May the directors were looking for some improvement over last year.

They now report first half (25 weeks) pre-tax profits, before interest, of £1,910,000, against £1,807,000, with the improvement, however, more than offset by higher interest charges, leaving the pre-tax figure against £100,251, after tax of £57,904 (£52,050).

The interim dividend rate is maintained at 7½ per cent on a capital increased by a one-for-five scrip issue—an effective increase of 1½ per cent. A total equivalent to 20.88 per cent was paid for the year to January 31, 1971, on a profit of £50,000.

● comment

Farnell's pre-tax profits rise of 28½ per cent in the first six months is a good guide to the prospects for 1971-72 as a whole. Turnover is expected to go up by at least 30 per cent on maintained margins—these targets to be met without any price increases apart from those put up under franchises, till next March. The profit impetus is probably coming from the distribution side; electronic component users currently may prefer to buy from distribution, rather than the individual in stocks. However, with the general credit relaxation this situation may not last. So Farnell looks

Bacal lowers its sights

NORTHAMPTON based building contractors and estate developers, Bacal Construction is downgrading its profit forecast from between £700,000 to £750,000 to between the first half of 1970, the directors say.

The engineering division was £205,000 on turnover of £77,970. Comparative figures for 1970 are not available as this is the first interim report since the extension of Bacal's accounting year to December 31.

Chairman, Mr. E. Adkins says that as previously indicated some difficulty has been experienced on certain fixed price contracts against which a provision was made in last year's accounts. The contracts are in the main virtually complete but losses on them have proved to be greater than anticipated.

Despite this, however, the profit for the current year will be £550,000 to £700,000.

He reports that the private housing section still continues to

improved performances over 1970, with the exception of the foundries division where profits will be affected by reduced demand, they add.

Statement Page 30

● comment

Laurence Scott has been through a rough patch over the past couple of years but now seems to be well on the mend with half-year profits continuing the recovery trend apparent in the second half of last year. Cost inflation and assorted production blockages have been the main trouble but the group has recently completed some major under-protected long-term contracts and new ones have been signed on more favourable terms. After being 25 per cent up in the first five months of 1971 output is continuing at a high level and the current order position for all the main range

is likely to continue for at least another year. Despite their tight market, the share price of 9½p to 10½p may be in line for some re-rating.

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● comment

Laurence Scott's recovery

continues with the share price of 9½p to 10½p.

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Statement Page 30

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY NEWS + EURO MARKETS

Rank, MEPC to raise \$40m. on Eurobond market

BY WILLIAM LOW

TWO BRITISH companies announced plans last night to raise a total of \$40m. on the international capital market.

Rank Organisation, as forecasted in last week's *Financial Times*, will offer \$23m. of 15-year bonds through an international underwriting syndicate headed by Kleinwort Benson. In the light of current market conditions, the issue is expected to carry a coupon of 8½ per cent. Final terms will be fixed on November 22.

Metropolitan Estate and Property Corporation (MEPC), through its international underwriting syndicate, will float a \$15m. 15-year loan through a group of underwriters headed by N. M. Rothschild and Sons. No coupon indication has been given, but Rothschild said that the issue would be priced to yield around 8½ per cent. Offering documents have been set for November 3.

Eurobond investors have not always been enthusiastic about offerings by British borrowers. MEPC was forced to withdraw a \$15m. loan from the market earlier this year, but both Rank and MEPC are well known internationally. Other factors which

should help attract a satisfactory writing syndicate are likely to respond to both issues are a current strength of the secondary sector of the Eurobond market, a coupon of 8½ per cent. has been attached to the DM100m. loan by the Banco Nacional de Obras y Servicios Publicos, of Mexico. Dresden Bank, the consortium leader, announced that the 15-year bonds will be priced at 98½ per cent.

Later this month, Ramada Inns of the U.S. is expected to float a convertible (equity-linked) bond loan for an amount of around \$12m. Members of the under-

writers will be asked to take a coupon of 8½ per cent. Final terms will be fixed on November 22.

Wendel-Sidelor turnover rises 36% to Frs.5,905m.

BY JANE BERGEROL

PARIS, Oct. 20.

WENDEL-SIDELOR turnover rose consolidation are Wendel-Sidelor to Frs.4,322m. (which produced Frs.606m. of during the 1970-71 financial year (the gross profits) Soliac, Sacilor an increase of 36.6 per cent.—and Centrale Siderurgique de Riehemont.

If results for the Wendel-Sidelor parent company of the group, which sold off most of its steel interests to Wendel-Sidelor, is consolidated, gross profits before amortisation and taxes reached a sum which will lead to an increase in capacity of steel tube production at Jouet to 50,000 tons a year (last year's output reached 35,963 tons).

IN BRIEF

Europe

• CEMENTS LAFARGE profits dropped sharply to Frs.78m. in first 1971 half, compared with 1970 half-year figure of Frs.106m. However, second-half results will be much healthier. Management expects to end year with increased net profit and will certainly pay same dividend as last year.

• ELEKTRO-WATT, of Zurich, and Indelec Schweizerische Gesellschaft fuer Elektrische Industrie, of Basle, two Swiss electrical industry holding companies, sold to a German industrial group, Allianz Versicherungen AG, their shares of 11.1 and 6.7 per cent, respectively, in a German company, Deutsche Continental-Gas-Gesellschaft. Allianz thus increases its participation in latter company to about 43 per cent.

• STE. GENERALE DE BELGIQUE'S proposed shares split on five-for-one basis will take place from November 15, Brussels Bourse Committee announced.

North America

• HONEYWELL third quarter earnings rose 93 per cent. on sales increased 4 per cent. Mr. James H. Binger, chairman, described results as "encouraging, but added year-to-date results are somewhat behind 1970, and consequently it may be difficult to equal net income of a year ago."

Honeywell's third quarter sales and rental revenues were \$476.6m. compared with \$459.6m. year ago.

• GULF AND WESTERN INDUSTRIES reported net earnings in its poor third quarter in 1970. Binger said, "In 1970-71, results are added year-to-date results are somewhat behind 1970, and consequently it may be difficult to equal net income of a year ago."

Gulf and Western's third quarter sales and rental revenues were \$476.6m. compared with \$459.6m. year ago.

• HAWKER SIDDELEY CANADA won a contract from Southeastern Commonwealth Drilling (SEDCO), of Calgary, to build \$20m. semi-submersible offshore drilling unit. This is fourth rig to be built at Hawker Siddeley's Halifax shipyard for SEDCO. Rig will be completed in two years and is scheduled for exploration work this year.

• B. F. GOODRICH net earnings in third quarter fell to \$8.5m. (50 cents per share) from \$9.9m. (68 cents) on sales increased to 15.2 per cent. and 10.9 million units of turnover, respectively, a year (last year's output reached 35,963 tons).

• NORTH AMERICAN PHILIPS CORP. reported third-quarter net earnings, however, rose to \$23.5m. (\$1.62) from \$21.5m. (\$1.48) on sales of \$87.7m. (\$9.18m.).

• CHEMICAL NEW YORK CORP. reported third-quarter net profit as \$4,422,000 or 50 cents a share (1970, \$3,000,000 or 48 cents).

Bank reports income before securities transactions of \$32.8m. or \$3.94 a share, for nine months ended September 30, 1971. This compares with \$30.6m. or \$4.18 a share, for first three-quarters of 1970.

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COMPANY NEWS

Big first half recovery for Spillers

DUE TO some improvement in that the results for the year as margin and a higher turnover, a whole will show an encouraging improvement on those for 1970-71.

An announcement was made on October 14 of the intention to merge Spillers flour-milling, baking and feed interests with those of the Co-operative Wholesale Society and J. W. Morris & Co., which are at present retained in a joint-owned company, J. W. French (Milling and Baking) Holdings. The relevant Spillers and French interests will be transferred to a new company to be called Spillers-French Holdings, in which Spillers will hold 75.1 per cent. and French 24.9 per cent. of the equity.

While the merger is not expected to have any material effect on Spillers results for the current year, the Board firmly believes the creation of this "large and important" business operating in traditional fields holds "exciting prospects" for the future. A letter giving further information will be sent to holders as soon as practicable.

Chairman Mr. Montague Burke, in his annual statement to shareholders, said that 1971-72 should again show improved results in the current interim statement, the directors again point out that first-half figures are not fully indicative of the year's results, since retailing profits are earned in the second six months, which include the Christmas trading period.

They say that trading since June 30 has been on a steady upward trend in the period last year.

In the full year 1970-71, pre-tax profit was a record \$419,263 and the single dividend paid 20 per cent.

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Eagle Star interim "dai" raised to 5½p

INCREASE in the interim dividend from 5p to 5½p per 50p share is announced by Eagle Star for 1971. In 1970, the company paid a total of 12p per share for the six months ended June 30, 1971, the directors' investment income again increased, although the rate of growth has slowed down, due mainly to the worldwide fall in interest rates—this has, however, produced a substantial rise in value of fixed-interest securities.

The performance of equity funds has resulted in a further increase in the values of Ordinary shares. Eagle Star and Midland Life funds stand at December 31, 1971, and a satisfactory increase in annual profit for shareholders is expected. New investments are completed in the departments world-wide in first half amounted to £150m, upped with £18m.

A fire accident and motor, including the cost of adjustment of sums settled in the last year and liability accounts has resulted in increases in premium rates. The unearned premium vision carried forward at each year and under conventional accounting methods has, because of inadequate rates, been increased to meet the inflated cost of claims in respect of the expired risk.

It is intended to meet this position by setting up from inner reserves at January 1, 1971, over above that for unearned premiums, an additional provision unexpired risks as envisaged in the accounting regulations of the Department of Trade and Industry.

It will ensure that, so far as can be foreseen, the full sum for any loss on each year's business is dealt with in accounts for that year. At the same time analysis of the experience in 1971 of the late identification of claims shows that amount set aside at the end of the year will be adequate and that it would be prudent to strengthen the provision for claims unexpired but not reported. The amounts which follow are made allowing for the effects of these factors.

Total premiums in the first months were: U.K. £28.1m. (£m.); overseas and treaty £m. (£18.1m.). A large part of the U.K. increase arises from higher rates in motor and employers' liability. Fire account continues to operate profitably. In accidents, marine, building, the results are still unsatisfactory. At this stage, however, effect of substantial increases rates is yet to come and trends for the year as a whole are moving.

Results overseas show an improvement, although in total they were a loss due mainly to continued adverse trading in Canada. In 1968 marine and aviation output will close with a surplus in the open years for the group as a whole are continuing to develop satisfactorily.

In conclusion, the directors expect that 1971 life profits for shareholders and investment income will show increases. With the exception of fire business in Canada, the trend in every account is more satisfactory than 1970 but the overall loss on general business, although reduced, will still be material. The balance for the year should be that for 1970.

See Lex.

AB Electronic prospects

Lord Brecon, chairman of AB Electronic Components, tells shareholders that the increase in sales and profits in 1970-71 has specific significance in view of the decline in demand for dual band television components. He accounted for well over a turnover per annum in recent years and it follows that increased sales of other products has replaced this loss.

The company expects to profit from the growth in our television, but the reduced rate of reliance on the entertainment sector of the electronics industry is of long term importance.

As reported on September 14, tax profits for the year to July 2, 1971 increased from £605 to £315,051 on sales of £m. (15.5m.). The dividend was raised from 3.54p to 3.7p per share.

Lord Brecon stresses that the agreements with CTS Corporation of the U.S. not only strengthens the business relationship with this major American electronic component manufacturer corporation, "but also strengthens the position of confidence between us upon Britain's economic Community."

Though changes in the economic situation may cause unforeseen developments in future, recent inflationary issues, following upon stringent economies in operations, are expected to result in further savings when they become fully effective, he adds.

Cardiff, November 15 1971

"Reasonable"

profit for

Ketton

Chairman of The Ketton Portland Cement Company, Mr. A. G. Crossland, in his annual statement that the selling price movement is virtually frozen until end of July 1972. This being so, income resulting from the increase in selling price in May, he says, may be considerably eroded by the increased costs already absorbed and are accruing during the present year.

Providing there is no considerable reduction in building and construction and that the winter months are not severe, he anticipates that reasonable profits will be made in the year to June 1972. As reported on October 4, group profit before tax for the year ended June 30, 1971, advanced by £742,858 to £1,375,650 and dividend is 20 per cent (15 per cent).

Crossland profits rise

Pre-tax profits of R. and A. G. Crossland rose from £12,151 to £15,531 in the first half of 1971 and the interim dividend is rounded up from 8½ per cent to 8½ per cent.

Chairman, Mr. R. W. Reynolds, says order books are in a "very healthy state" and there is every indication that the trend of improved profits will continue in the second half. In 1970, pre-tax profits were £284,237 and the total dividend 25.53 per cent.

As forecast in June, the profits short-fall in the first quarter of the year has been rectified in the second quarter.

The group manufactures electrical lighting equipment, pressings, etc.

Better year for Brasway

Addressing the annual meeting of Brasway, Mr. R. A. Swaby,

Rycroft growth

Rycroft (Bradford) Holdings, building and ironmongery merchants and coppersmiths, currently the subject of a bid from United Builders Merchants, announces a 17 per cent advance in half-time profit to £140,000 and a one point rise in the interim dividend to 5 per cent. A total of 12½ per cent was paid for the year to January 31, 1971, from a profit of £304,182.

It was hoped to improve the interim dividend and, subject to this level of profits continuing, to pay a higher final.

The company has retained G. T. Whyte and Co., a subsidiary of Triumph Investment Trust, as its financial advisers. Official dividends declared are interim or final and the sub-division shown below.

TD-DAY
Interests: Canadian (W.), Canadian and International Trust, Canadian Securities Trust, Gill and Duffus, Guardian Investments Trust, Harrow Industries, Hutton (W.), Hutton, Hutton and Co., London General Trust, Jacobs, Goss (L.), London Brick, Scientific and Electronic Industries Trust, Scottish Mortgage and Trust, Standard Life, Sun Life, Tilling (Treas.), Wimbleton Securities.

Funds: Bland (John), Fairfax Jersey, Hampshire Gold Mining, Jessie Securities, Lake and Elliot, London Entertainments, London Estates Investment Trust, Pahang Consolidated, Sime Darby, Ward (Gas.).

FUTURE DATES
Interests—
British Merchant Finance Oct 24
British Government Trust Oct 25
Brook Trust Oct 26
Chamberlain Group Nov 27
Clarke (Clement) Oct 27
Debentures Oct 28
Macroeconomics Oct 29
Morley Oct 29
Pembroke Oct 29
Plessey Nov 29
Avonmouth Engineering Nov 30
Associated Technical Trust Nov 30
Judge International Nov 30
Lucas (Joseph) Nov 30
Marineair Nov 30
Preston (Cotton) Nov 30
White Drummond Nov 30

Sales
Profits
Taxation
Net profit
Minorities interests
Arrears
Interim dividend
Retained

Six months
1971
2,750
1,757
26
50
3
44
25

Statement Page 26

WESTMINSTER TRUST

Holders of the 8 per cent Unsecured Debenture Stock 1981-06 of Westminster Trust have approved the proposal for the exchange into 8½ per cent Unsecured Loan Stock 1982-97 of Land Securities Investment Trust.

Dealers in this Land Securities stock and for the 3 per cent convertible to be issued under the offer for all the capital of Westminster Trust tomorrow. In the event of the 8½ per cent stock such dealing will be for deferred settlement on Monday, November 15.

Trading conditions in most markets are still favourable although some margins have been eroded, they state.

Statement Page 30

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Peter D. Smith becomes Forward Leasing chairman



Mr. Peter D. Smith, a director of Forward Trust, has been appointed chairman of FORWARD LEASING in succession to Mr. T. J. Fisher, the chief executive of Forward Trust. Mr. Smith continues as managing director of the leasing company.

Mr. S. R. Berry, general manager of Forward Leasing, and Mr. A. C. L. Brown, an assistant general manager of Midland Bank Finance Corporation, have been made directors of Forward Leasing.

Mr. M. F. Strachan, chairman of the Ben Line Steamers, has been appointed a director of the BANK OF SCOTLAND.

Mr. G. H. C. Clay has resigned as a director of GREENFIELD INVESTMENT COMPANY.

Mr. Keith Padgen (director of buying and distribution) and Mr. Alastair Grant (director of marketing and sales development), both directors of Fine Fare Supermarkets, have been appointed to the main Board of FINE FAIR.

Mr. David G. Filmer has been appointed technical director of the feed division of CROSFIELD AND CALTHROP.

Mr. H. F. Astidge, co-ordinator home sales of the BRITISH STEEL CORPORATION at its London office, is to retire at the end of October after 45 years in the steel industry.

Two new directors have been appointed by J. W. CHORLEY. They are Mr. Tom Alchuck and Mr. W. G. Moore.

Mr. Michael Berman has been

made a director of ELYSTAN DEVELOPMENTS (SAMUEL PROPERTIES).

Mr. W. A. H. Griffiths and Mr. P. R. D. Bates, formerly executive directors of CPC INTERNATIONAL, have been made divisional managing directors.

Mr. R. J. H. Parkes, formerly executive director of CPC INTERNATIONAL of the U.S. He is also a director of CPC (United Kingdom), formerly Brown and Polson.

Mr. E. O. Ballie has joined MILLER CONSTRUCTION NORTHERN as managing director. Mr. D. V. Ottewill has been appointed a local director of James Miller and Partners.

Mr. R. G. Duthie, managing director of BLACK AND EDGINGTON, has been appointed chairman of the company on the retirement of Mr. D. C. Black. Mr. A. J. Barsham has been made deputy general manager.

Mr. A. R. Sargent, currently general manager, technical services, W. and C. French (Construction), has been appointed a director of W. AND C. FRENCH (OVERSEAS) from November 1. He will be responsible for the company's business in the Seychelles where he will shortly take up permanent residence.

Mr. Neville Wilson, managing director of Astley Acceptances (Overseas), has been appointed deputy general manager of the CO-OPERATIVE BANK. He succeeds Mr. Lewis Lee who became general manager of the bank in May.

Mr. A. Lever has become assistant general manager (banking) and Mr. A. Bassford assistant general manager (administration). Mr. Bassford will relinquish his duties as Manchester branch manager.

Mr. D. C. Maxey, previously chief accountant, has been made assistant general manager (operations).

You'll probably be after our new Rover.

Rover 3500S 400ft	425ft	450ft	475ft	500ft	525ft
Import 2979cc £2,231					
Import 2496cc £2,992					
British 2994cc £2,182					
British 3294cc £1,514					
Import 2494cc £2,999					

All prices rounded to nearest £.

How Rover's distance covered in 9.5 secs leaves the others trailing.

Source: Rover's own tests. Others—Autocar and Motor road tests.

Look how Rover's forged ahead this year.
Acceleration of our new 3500S is 0-60 mph in 9.5 seconds.

But what really counts, as motoring journals will confirm, is the distance covered in that time.

Right up the range, Rover outpaces cars costing about £1,000 more.

Up to 30 mph, for example, the 3500S covers 34.7% more ground than a £2,992 import.

And as you can see from a standing start, after 9.5 secs we leave everyone else behind.

Our new 125 mph chart buster is the manual version of the proven 3500 Automatic.

You'll recognise one by the grained vinyl roof and brushed stainless steel spoked wheel trims.

The 3500S has a V8 engine, twin carburetors, all synchromesh gearbox and large bore exhaust plus all the features that earned Rover a gold medal for safety.

At £1,977 it's going to be hard to follow.



The Rover Company Limited, Solihull, Warwickshire.

New Rover 3500S £1976.88.

Recommended price (inc pd) ex works
(excluding delivery, number plates and seat belts).



REPORT FROM THE REGIONS

BY STANLEY WEBB

Church and industry in East Anglia

THE Church of England, which used irreverently to be called "the Tory party at prayer," has recently been taking a more positive interest in the human problems of industry. In East Anglia, clergy of the four dioceses of Norwich, Ipswich, Ely and Peterborough recently took part in a one-day conference at the University of East Anglia which was attended by a cross-section of industrialists, trade union officials, and local authority planners.

The moving spirit was Canon Michael Mann, industrial adviser to the Bishop of Norwich. As vicar of Port Harcourt, in eastern Nigeria, he had found that the impact of the highly technological oil industry on a primitive tribal society was creating a severe rift similar to that he later found between town and country in the diocese of Norwich, to which he was called when illness obliged him to leave West Africa.

It is three years since the

East Anglia Study described the main problems of the region as low earnings, poor communications and weak social services. These are combined with the fastest rate of population growth in the country—made up partly by immigration, partly of working and retired people, and partly by a rising birth rate.

The first fruit of the bishops' one-day conference is a report entitled: "East Anglia: Where Are We Going?" Finding the right pattern for the region's future is not, the report says, just a matter of assembling the right economic facts and throwing in some sociological ones.

"There is another dimension

that of human values and the quality of life....

The East Anglian is accustomed to the closely-knit relationships of the church and community, and has not come to grips with the problems caused by the growth of the larger urban areas, and the consequent loss of homogeneity and integration.

He finds the transition painful and baffling....

We are looking for a socially balanced community. We do not

want to become so over-organised that individual choice and freedom is lost.

We want a better standard of living and particularly more money. So far the people of East Anglia are not willing to travel outside the region to look for it.

We want more jobs, but we dread the thought of more industry spoiling our countryside. We would welcome more tourists provided they are not too intrusive and obvious. We realise we can

not achieve these aims without careful planning, but we distrust those who plan and we resent decisions being thrust upon us from outside."

Followed literally these self-cancelling impulses would be the primrose path to economic stagnation.

The representatives of the temporal powers I talked to during a visit to Norwich are strenuously striving to prevent this happening.

There are about 12,000 unemployed in the Norwich diocese, more than 2,000 of whom are in Norwich itself, a high proportion middle-aged or elderly, some of whom have been out of work for up to six months.

"We have always been about one degree under the general economic climate," said Mr. Harry Simpson, area manager of the Department of Employment,

"with jobless figures usually slightly higher than the national average (although not since the

current general rise in workless).

There is a chronic problem of unemployment, particularly among older unskilled men, and the present economic and social conditions likely to improve their lot promotes a good deal of the local feeling that the area needs a boost to promote industrial development.

"However, although there are nearly 100,000 people employed in the city there is no really large industry. Only six or seven organisations employ more than 1,000 workers and the record of closures and redundancies in the past years is not encouraging for the future of complete security.

Moreover, there is no queue of prospective employers, no footloose industries. I can count on the fingers of one hand the total of firms who have wanted to build factories here over the past seven years."

Yet the Hunt Committee, set up by the last Government to investigate the unemployment problems of "grey" areas saw no reason to give special help to East Anglia.

There is general agreement that any constructive economic strategy depends upon getting the roads right, particularly since the rail network—apart from the main lines—has almost vanished. Mr. Simpson thinks that Norfolk looks something of an "island" to outsiders, and that a major spur linking Norfolk with the M1 and A1 would bring in new industries.

There are, however, plans to by-pass towns along the A47 King's Lynn to Norwich road, and make the A45 Cambridge-Felixstowe road, a double track highway.

East Anglian ports are flourishing. The North Sea gas boom has brought some investment and enterprise (although no great increase in employment) to Lowestoft and Yarmouth, and Felixstowe has developed a lively containerisation traffic. Sea gas comes ashore through a carefully landscaped complex at Bacton, and the resultant traffic in distillate

monies, and with a freedom and frankness that would not be possible in more formal gatherings. They get to know each other better and increase their understanding of regional affairs.

But a report such as that which followed the bishops' conference inevitably raises problems which depend for their solution on an improvement in the general economic climate. As Mr. Simpson said: "People come to me for work. Spiritual heal once the man finds a job."

Labour pool

Mr. B. A. Ward, the county industrial planning officer, cited as an example the case of Harleston, a town in south Norfolk with 2,000 to 3,000 inhabitants, where agricultural machinery firms have set up a factory providing 500 FTE new jobs. But these are for the most part, "once only" operations, since the available pool of skilled labour in each place is small.

All welcome the Church's industrial mission. In particular, Canon Mann's dynamism makes him an effective catalyst. His study groups have initiated a dialogue among people who now sit down together and exchange

conflicting views without acrimony, and with a freedom and frankness that would not be possible in more formal gatherings. They get to know each other better and increase their understanding of regional affairs.

But a report such as that which followed the bishops' conference inevitably raises problems which depend for their solution on an improvement in the general economic climate. As

Mr. Arthur Bryan, chairman of Wedgwood and of the British

Pottery Manufacturers Federation, said: "The introduction of the courses was a great achievement.

The ceramics course would be beneficial to the local pottery industry whose life-blood

depended on its design education.

Mr. Bryan said: "The man finds a job."

To-day's Events

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS:
House of Commons: Opening of six-day debate on the United Kingdom and the European Communities.

House of Lords: Debate on the workings of the Whitley machinery in the National Health Service.

LORD MAYOR'S ANNUAL DINNER FOR CITY BANKERS AND BUSINESS MEN, Mansion House, E.C. 2, 7.45 p.m. Principal guests: Mr. Anthony Barber, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Sir Leslie Braine, Governor of the Bank of England; Sir Martin Williams, chairman of the Stock Exchange; and Sir Henry Mance, chairman of Lloyd's.

ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY, luncheon meeting to be addressed by Herr Gerhard Merz, director, Institute

for the Study of Political Trends, Hamburg, on "Berlin and the Common Market: A German View." Northumberland Avenue, W.C. 2, 1.15-2.15 p.m.

SOCIETY OF INDUSTRIAL ANALYSTS, meeting to be addressed by Sir George Dowty, chairman of the Dowty Group, at the library of the Institute of Directors, 10, Lombard Street, E.C. 2, 9.30 a.m.

BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION, annual meeting at 61, Green Street, W. 1, 1.30 p.m.

COMPANY MEETINGS:
DALLAS (John E.), Dallas House, E.C. 10. (Chairman: Mr. G. S. Lee.)

GEARSON AND THOMAS, 10, Throgmorton Street, E.C. 2, 10. (Chairman: Mr. S. Schreiber.)

HOCROFT TRUST, E.C. 12.05. (Chairman: Mr. R. A. E. Franklin.)

NEWTON (John M.), East Grinstead, 2. (Chairman: Mr. J. Spindler.)

OLIVER PELL CONTROL, Charing Cross Hotel, 12. (Chairman: Mr. B. W. A. Dickson.)

PLESSY, Millbank Tower, S.W. 1, 11.45. (Chairman: Sir John Clark.)

STEPHEN (Alexander), Glasgow, 11. (Chairman: Mr. R. Kemp.)

CERAMIC DESIGN COURSE

A post-graduate course in industrial ceramic design and a graduate course in fine arts will start next September at the North Staffs Polytechnic.

Mr. Arthur Bryan, chairman of Wedgwood and of the British

Pottery Manufacturers Federation, said: "The introduction of the

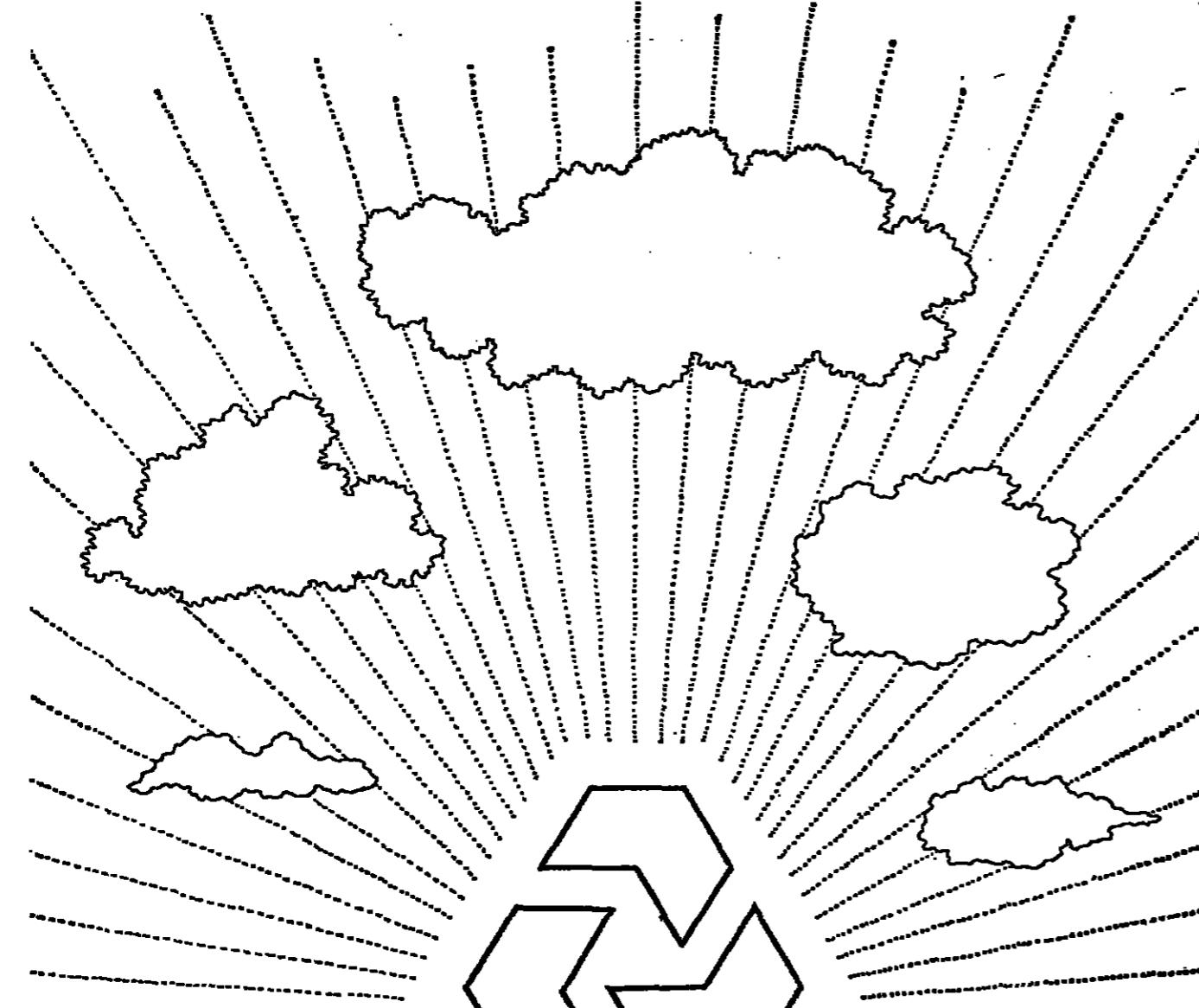
courses was a great achievement.

The ceramics course would be

beneficial to the local pottery

industry whose life-blood

depended on its design education.



NatWest opens up the mysterious East.

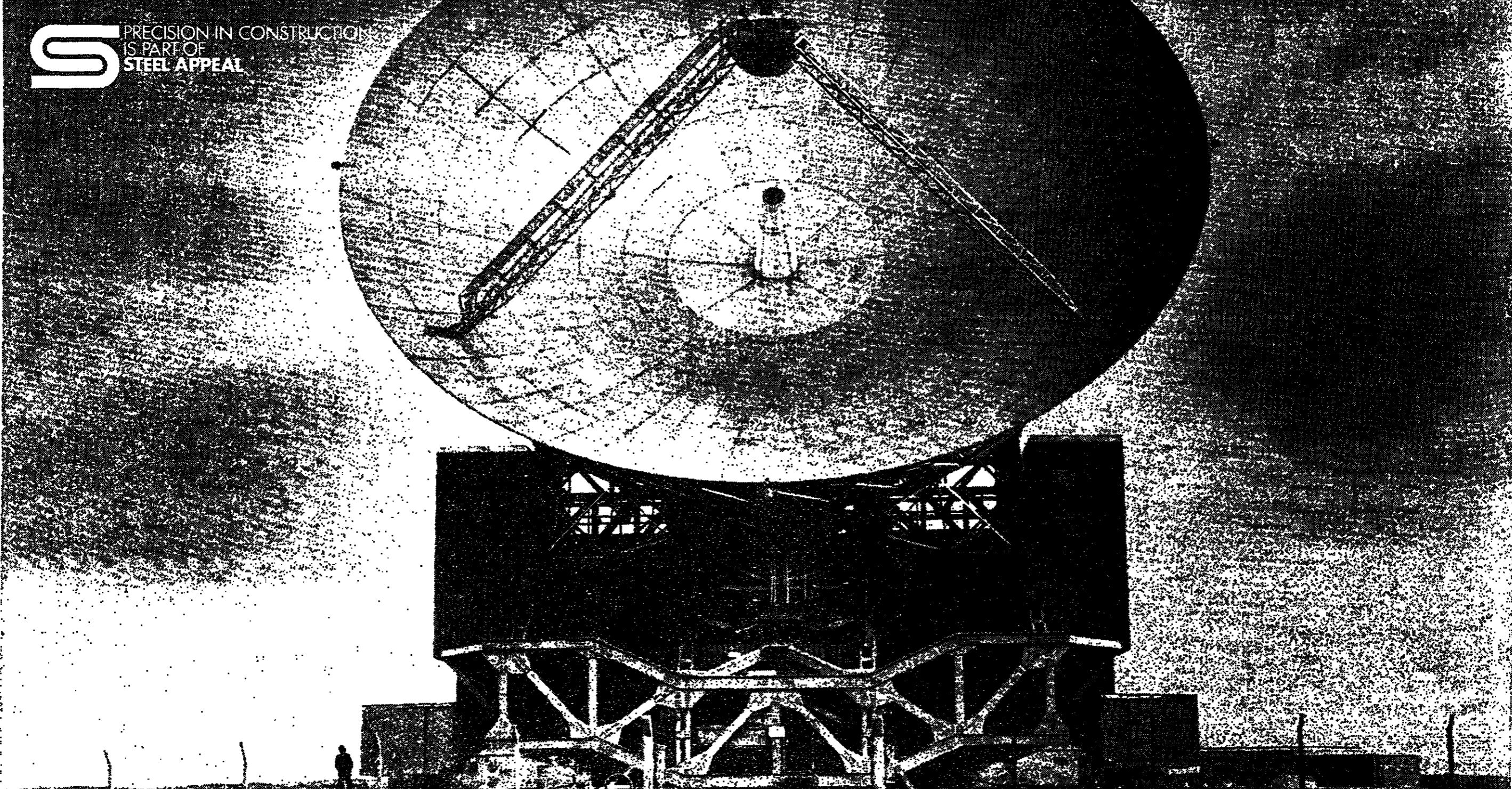
Today, National Westminster Bank opened a Representative Office in Tokyo, in the renowned Kokusai Building.

Our Representative, Mr. D. G. Woods, is available for consultation and advice on all problems of Japanese and international trade and finance, and is supported by the resources and expertise of one of the largest banks in the world.

You can contact him through the Senior International Executive for Asia and Australasia, International Finance and Development, 53 Threadneedle Street, London, E.C. 2. (Telephone: 01-588 6122.)

Let NatWest's experience smooth your path into one of the world's great industrial and financial markets.

National Westminster Bank
Simply there to help



A down-to-earth message of accuracy from steel.

Modern steelwork readily achieves high precision.

It permits the accuracy that is as essential to space technology as it is desirable in down-to-earth building components.

In this UK communications satellite earth station at Goonhilly, some 508 tonnes of structural steel

were employed for the 27.45 m. diameter aerial, and supporting structure.

Design in steel allows precision elements in structures like this to be checked before delivery, and assembled with ease even on remote sites.

Strong stable mounting limits

deflection, even under severe wind loads and gives precise directional control. The reflector is of special stainless steel to maintain the vital paraboloid shape and resist corrosion.

Steel alone achieves the precision with economy so essential in today's structural projects.

To: Manager—Market Promotion, British Steel Corporation, 33 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7JG.

I wish to receive more information on the application of steel in the project described here.

I wish to know how the precision of steel can be applied to my own needs.

My particular interest is

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

City _____

Country _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Postcode _____

City _____

Country _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Postcode _____

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City _____

Country _____

Date _____

Signature _____

INTERIM STATEMENTS

WEIR

THE WEIR GROUP LIMITED

INTERIM STATEMENT

Results for 25 weeks ended 25th June, 1971. Subject to Audit

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

	25 weeks to 25 June, 1971	25 weeks to 26 June, 1970	52 weeks to 1 Jan., 1971
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
TURNOVER	33,229	29,976	68,445
Profit before interest & tax	1,910	1,807	3,620
Interest payable less receivable	1,002	836	1,840
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	908	971	1,780
Estimated Taxation	253	272	379
Tax adjustment for prior years	—	—	(72)
PROFIT AFTER TAX	655	699	1,473
Profit attributable to minority interests	25	23	28
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE WEIR GROUP LTD	630	676	1,445

INTERIM DIVIDEND

An interim dividend of 8% (1970: 8%) will be paid to Shareholders for the 32 weeks ending 31st December, 1971. Payment will be made on 6th December, 1971 to Members on the Register at close of business on 5th November, 1971.

TRADING AND PROSPECTS

Orders received and invoiced sales were 6% and 11% higher respectively than in the first half of 1970. The Engineering Division should show higher profits for 1971 on increased sales. The other Divisions should all show improved performances over those of 1970, with the exception of the Foundries Division, where profits will be affected by reduced demand. The final outcome of the Group's operations for the year is expected to be much the same as in 1970, and should enable the Directors to recommend a final dividend of 14% (1970: 14%).

THE WEIR GROUP LIMITED

CATHCART, GLASGOW, S.A.

Telephone Rentals
LIMITED
Incorporating
DICTOGRAPH TELEPHONES LIMITED
OPERATING **TR** SERVICES

INTERIM STATEMENT FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1971

	1971	1970
6 months ended 30th June	6 months ended 30th June	12 months ended 31st Dec.
T.R. Group Profit, before Taxation (unaudited)	2,582,000	2,315,000
Less: Estimated Taxation	800,000	856,000
Group Profit after Taxation	1,782,000	1,459,000
Less: Minority Interests	8,000	8,000
Balance of Profit attributable to Telephone Rentals Limited	1,784,000	1,451,000
Depreciation:		
Amounts charged in arriving at above Profits	1,008,000	925,000
Taxation:		
United Kingdom*	649,000	728,000
Overseas	151,000	130,000
	800,000	856,000
* Corporation Tax rate used. These figures do not provide for any transfers to the Tax Equalisation Reserve, which if calculated on the normal basis would amount to	40%	45%
	40%	40%
Associated Company Share of Profit included in above figures:		
Profit before Taxation	73,000	67,000
Taxation	35,000	30,000
The figures announced last year for the 6 months at 30th June, 1970, have been adjusted accordingly.		

The unaudited Profits of the Group show a marked increase and business taken for the first six months of 1971 is ahead of that taken for the same period last year.

Although some slowing down is to be expected during the second half of the year, it is anticipated that the outcome for the year as a whole will be satisfactory.

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend on the Ordinary Share Capital of 10% payable on 7th December, 1971, to all Shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 10th November, 1971.

Allen Harvey & Ross Limited

INTERIM STATEMENT 1971

- The exceptional profits for the first half of our financial year were a record for any six month period.
- The full effects of this should be apparent by the end of the financial year which is April 5th 1972.
- Trading conditions in most of our markets are still favourable although some profit margins have been eroded.
- Meanwhile, the Directors declare an interim dividend of 15% (1970-10%) and expect to be able to pay a final dividend of not less than 15% (1970-16%) making a total for the year of 30% (1970-26%).

Allen Harvey & Ross Limited, Bill Brokers and Bankers,
45, Cornhill, London E.C.3.

William Baird & Company Limited

Interim Report for the half-year ended 30th June, 1971

An interim dividend of 4 per cent. (1970-4 per cent.) requiring £449,000 gross, was declared yesterday on the Ordinary Stock of the Company in respect of 1971. It will be paid on 7th December, 1971, less Income Tax, to those Stockholders on the Register on 9th November.

21st October, 1971

	1971 Unaudited First Half-year £'000	1970 Unaudited First Half-year £'000	1970 Audited Full Year £'000
Operating Profit			
Textiles	503	345	707
Industrial	259	231	563
Mining:			
Sierra Leone Development Company	116	(228)	57
Services	163	137	394
Investment	240	381	793
Central administration	1,281	886	2,514
Interest	(102)	(93)	(790)
	(287)	(298)	(637)
Profit before Taxation	892	475	1,687
Estimated taxation	(335)	(125)	(311)
Profit after Taxation	557	350	1,376
Minority interests	8	26	22
Profit for Period attributable to Ordinary Stock	565	376	1,358

Interim Statement

Group As expected, profit before taxation reflects a significant improvement in Textiles, a satisfactory result from Industrial and a reduced return from Investment. In Mining, Services continued to make steady progress, but the contribution from the Sierra Leone Development Co. was at a lower level than in the second half of 1970. The charge for taxation has returned to a more normal basis.

Textiles Results for the half-year include a useful increase in the profit of the established units and one month's contribution from J. H. Buckingham & Co. U.K. garment operations have continued to expand sales. The spinning mills have had difficulty in securing sufficient orders to maintain multi-shift working on a continuous basis, but the cloth manufacturing units have made a strong recovery from the aftermath of the major fire in 1970. The Italian operation continues to be bedevilled by labour unrest and frequent strikes. Results for the second half of the year should maintain the improvement achieved during the first half and, in addition, will include a full six months' contribution from Buckingham.

Industrial The small increase in profit over the first half of last year was achieved despite the severe difficulties in some engineering markets served by the company, including the aero-engine industry. Much of the business is geared to demand for types of capital plant in which recovery will not be immediate. The volume of work on large specialist contracts which are in hand is increasing. A fifty per cent. addition to fine magnesia chemical capacity has recently come into service. The final profit for the year 1971 is expected to compare not unfavourably with previous years.

Mining Production of iron ore concentrates by the Sierra Leone Development Co. showed a marked increase over that of the first six months of 1970 and there was a noticeable improvement in quality. Since then, operations have been hampered by two derailments on the company's railway which, combined with the continuing rise in costs, will limit profitability in the second half of the year. Late in 1970 and in the early months of 1971, demand for iron ore was strong. In the second quarter of 1971 this trend was abruptly reversed, world production and sales of steel turning sharply downwards, leading to a substantial surplus of iron ore production capacity. For the remainder of this year no difficulty is expected in disposing of the mine's production, but if there is no improvement in world steel markets by the year-end, the outlook for 1972 cannot be regarded as encouraging.

The other companies in the Mining division continue collectively to show improvement.

Investment As foreshadowed in the Annual Statement in May, investment income showed a substantial reduction in the first six months of the current year, and this trend will continue for the remainder of 1971. Several factors contribute to this shortfall. Income in 1970 was boosted by a number of special receipts; a lower return from the major investment in Joseph Dawson (Holdings) will occur in 1971 and resources available to investment have been reduced mainly to help with the acquisition by Textiles of J. H. Buckingham for £3.5m. in cash. In the process, a number of investments have been realised on advantageous terms.

The balance of the 8 per cent. loan notes in Joseph Dawson (Holdings) has been repaid recently ahead of schedule. Group cash flow is also expected to be positive from now on, leading to an increase in the resources available for investment in 1972.

Outlook For 1971 as a whole, the expectation is still for a marked increase in pre-tax profits, with the benefit of this offset by a return to a more normal tax charge. The intention is to maintain the year's dividend at 11 per cent. with a final payment next June of 7 per cent.

Looking to 1972, the problems facing the mining company are considerable, but the resilience of Textiles and Industrial in the face of difficult conditions in their respective spheres encourages the belief that they will do well when the economic climate improves. There are some signs that the textile industry is beginning to feel the effect of the various stimulants to demand but it is likely to be some time yet before the engineering industry also begins to benefit.

S. A. FIELD, Chairman.

Stores' deal with union 'almost meaningless'

BY ALEX HENDRY, LABOUR REPORTER

A NATIONAL agreement between the shopworkers' union and British Home Stores is shown to be almost totally meaningless by a report published yesterday by the Commission on Industrial Relations.

The agreement was signed in June 1969, after a strike at a store in Swansea. It recognised the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers as the "sole" union for British Home Stores employees. But USDAW had less than 1 per cent. of the staff in membership.

The CIR recommends that the company should be prepared to take the union into its confidence when it is considering changes in the terms and conditions of employment and give full weight to the views of the union on the constitution of the labour force.

Two sides sort out the main problem of whether local deals can be negotiated against the background of the company's centralised structure.

But USDAW does not escape criticism. The report says: "The weaknesses revealed during the course of our inquiries cannot be attributed to the attitude and conduct of the company, but to the lack of appreciation by the union of the needs of its members."

It adds: "There appears to be little room for improvement in the methods of communication with both members and potential members."

It adds: "There appears to be considerable room for improvement in the methods of communication with both members and potential members."

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Report to

Shareholders
Employees
Customers
The Nation

the partners in **SECURICOR**

for the year ending October 1, 1971

by Keith Erskine, Managing Director

PROFITS TOP £1m FOR FIRST TIME: TURNOVER £25m

Inaudited profits are up from £13,000 before taxation to £1,100,000 and turnover from approximately £20m to £25m of which £3m was overseas. Ten years ago the figures were profits £30,000 and turnover £500,000. Growth has been consistent and organic almost without benefit of acquisition or capital injection — management has not been stretched to the level of its own incompetence.

No Rights Issue by our parent companies (Associated Hotels, Kensington Palace Hotel) is on the horizon.

SECURITY TRANSPORT AND PAYPAK

Gratefully, not boastfully, we record that only £123,000 out of about twenty thousand million pounds carried in the last year was stolen. There were several abortive attacks. Our insurance rate, was only 1p per £1,000 carried against the normal rate or unprotected transit of 15p to 25p. Bank work has surged for both cash and data. Our men's drill reached a new high.

GUARDING

We have been thanked by our customers for our help in the aircraft anti-hijacking campaign. At short notice we produced

many good men, who were on the tarmac in all weathers. Screening and supervision techniques are becoming more sophisticated. Our London training school is now supplemented by five regional schools. Sir Frederick Delves continues to guide and inspire our anti-fire indoctrination.

OTHER SERVICES

Help-Linkline, Store Detectives, Photo-Identification, Burglar and Fire Alarms, and other security services have steadily advanced.

OVERSEAS

We are in Malaya, Hong Kong, Singapore, Borneo, Kenya, Swaziland, Zambia, Uganda, Malawi, Malta, Ethiopia and Norway. Turnover and profits rose. We export security because we believe the British are good at it. At least we have the essentials, i.e., patience, fairness, integrity and some inventiveness.

The Governments of these countries are aware, too, that we are loyal, independent and incorruptible, and we have the backing of the world insurance market.

OVERHEADS

In ten of our main branches we are installing computer-terminals

linked to our data processing centre, now functioning at full efficiency. Despite increased turnover, we have been able to reduce our HQ staff by half and close two of our bigger London premises. Frugality is our watchword. Luxury is wasteful and weakening. Our overheads spread over a large turnover are, we believe, the lowest in the industry.

SECURICOR CARES

What was a proclamation of intent is becoming a statement of fact.

• For its customers. Examples: The way our men overcame fog, frost and snow to get the data to the banks by 9 am; and the company's work in assisting the overnight change to decimal.

• For its employees. Over the last 10 years, thanks to the Mutual Company, wages have risen more than the national wages index. This has helped us to recruit and retain a good type of guard.

• For the public good. Our courtesy campaign advances. We are increasingly accepted by the public, the police, the fire brigade and the Home Office as vital auxiliaries in crime and fire prevention.

THE CURRENT YEAR
Success, like failure, has its problems; but we cannot ignore Kipling's advice 'to treat those two impostors just the same', for his words are displayed in most of our branches. The struggle between good and bad has never been easy; but we face the current year with hopes as firm as before.

MORALE

The 'stick and carrot' idea is unworthy of our men. Carefully chosen and encouraged, they are by character among the salt of the nation. With the Mutual Company ensuring a just reward, our concern is that 'the job should challenge the worker.' We get the men's interest by explanation rather than order and by self-discipline rather than enforced discipline. The best ideas often come from below and are vented at regular meetings. Workers' participation in decision-making creates a sense of responsibility. The British artisan is not militant if he is wisely and justly led. Aldous Huxley said:

'It is a little embarrassing that after 45 years of research and study, the best advice I can give people is to be a little kinder to each other.' We are trying.

Aims of Securicor

1. To be among the most respected companies in the British Commonwealth.
2. To practise new and better methods of commerce.
3. To put principle before expediency and make sure our word is our bond.
4. Whilst not deviating from what is practical to enrol the idealism of youth.
5. To ignore class or race; to judge only by merit; to work in comradeship.
6. To divide more fairly the fruits of investment and work by means of the Mutual Company.

7. To combine what is best in public service, e.g., devotion to duty, with what is best in private enterprise, e.g., adaptability.
8. To express in the tangible terms of guarding and watching Man's regard for his neighbour and wish to serve him.

It is human to err. We in Securicor, repent our errors, but slowly, painfully and persistently we are climbing to a peak of unimpeachable integrity where Service is an end, not just a means.

To those who object that these aims are too altruistic, we reply that they result in higher morale, more goodwill and abundant rewards to our mutual company partners. Business cannot be divorced from living — both should be nobly done.



Securicor cares for customers, employees and the public good

SECURICOR

17 Chelsea Embankment
London SW3 Tel: 01-352 8191



Sir Philip Margesson
CVO MC
Chairman
Former Assistant Commissioner
Metropolitan Police



Sir Richard Jackson
CBE
Joint Vice-Chairman
Former President of Interpol



Sir Randolph Bacon
CBE
Director
Former Deputy Commissioner
Metropolitan Police



Sir Frederick Delves
CBE
Director
Fire Prevention Consultant
Former Chief Officer London Fire Brigade



Sir Ronald German
CBE CMG
Director
Communications
Former
Director-General of the GPO



Keith Erskine
Managing Director



Lord Thorneycroft
PC
Director
Former Chancellor of the Exchequer and President of the Board of Trade



The Lord Brooke of Cumbor PC GCB
PC
Director
Former Chancellor of the Exchequer and President of the Board of Trade



Sir Charles Cunningham
KCB KBE CVO
Director
Former Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Home Office



Lord Williamson
Director
Former Chairman of the TUC
Former Minister of Labour



The Rt Hon Roy Castle MP
Director
Former Minister of Labour

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

We are a public company engaged in merchant and investment banking, consumer credit, insurance and property investment and development. To meet the continued expansion of the Group, we are enlarging our Legal Department and have the following positions to fill:

Head Office

A Solicitor to be based at the Group's head office in the City to assist the Group Solicitor in the provision of a legal service covering all aspects of the Group's activities other than consumer credit, and to deputies for him when necessary.

Responsibility will be to the Group Solicitor, but both positions call for close liaison with senior management in the day to day problems of the divisions of the Group.

Applicants for both positions should be aged between 28 and 40, have at least three years' broad commercial experience since qualifying, and ideally should presently be employed in a finance house or other similar institution or in a large, commercially orientated firm of Solicitors.

These are senior appointments, carrying excellent prospects, for which the Group expects to pay substantial salaries, which will be negotiable but probably not less than £3,500 in each case, plus participation in an Executive Share Scheme and non-contributory Pension Scheme.

Applications, which will be treated in confidence, stating the position applied for and giving details of background and experience, should be sent to S. J. Clayman Esq., First National Finance Corporation Limited, City Wall House, Finsbury Pavement, London EC2P 2HJ.

FIRST NATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

SALES MANAGER

Equipment Leasing

A position offering unique growth potential is available with the new subsidiary of a leader in the technical equipment leasing field. The candidate for this position will have an outstanding record of performance with a sales-oriented manufacturing, financial or leasing organisation. He should be a self-starter, demonstrate leadership ability, and have extensive experience in building and managing a profitable highly-professional sales organisation. An educational background including undergraduate training in science or engineering plus an advanced degree in business, or its equivalent in experience, is preferred.

This position features an excellent salary, profit-sharing and estate-building compensation programme. Applicants are requested to send their resumes in complete confidence, to Box A 2388, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

Consumer Credit Division

A Solicitor to be based in this division, located in north west London, to assist the Group's Solicitor in the provision of a legal service covering all aspects of consumer credit.

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Our Clients, a group engaged in all aspects of hydraulic engineering and water treatment consulting, design, supply, installation and maintenance, require a MARKETING AND SALES MANAGER who is prepared to take up equity. Such a man must have a sound marketing and sales background and whilst not necessarily qualified, must have a good understanding of pumps and pumping, and be ready for early upgrading to a Board appointment.

Write or telephone for application form quoting reference ZG.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Investors Trust
PORT VILA, NEW HEBRIDES

We are conducting a multinational search for the best available person to take charge of our Vila office. Extensive trust experience and strong administrative skills are the basic requirements. C. B. Wentworth, Chairman of the Board, will be in London, October 25/29, for interviews. Please send complete resume to Box A 2287, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY. All letters will be answered.

APPOINTMENTS WANTED

WEST GERMANY

International businessman and wife required in the U.K. or West Germany which require personal selling, sales promotion, financial, banking and business connections. Fluent German speakers. Write Box 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

**FINANCIAL AND
ACCOUNTANCY
APPOINTMENTS
APPEAR TO-DAY**
ON PAGE 35

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UNIROYAL—Send a telegram to your message today. Tel: 01-722-7022.



Leonard Dale: "We've always been able to pursue an aggressive sales policy because we're sure of backing from the Midland."

Leonard Dale is Founder, Chairman and Managing Director of Dale Electric of Great Britain Limited, Filey, Yorkshire.

The company has been with the Midland for eleven years now, and in that time they've gone from strength to strength.

With the Bank's help, Dale have established themselves as one of the leading manufacturers of electric generating sets in Britain - over seventy per cent of their output going abroad as exports.

It's no wonder, then, that Mr. Dale

says he wouldn't like to be exporting without the Midland...

"The Midland are very much a partner in my business. Before we enter into anything, we discuss it with them; whenever we're exporting, we get tremendous backing from them."

It's a partnership that seems to pay off. This year alone, Dale have received the BNEC award for exports, the Queen's Award to Industry, and two years ago, Mr. Dale himself received the MBE.

As Leonard Dale says: "If anyone knows a better relationship with a bank, I'd like to hear about it."

The people from the Bank who have worked with Mr. Dale, we show below. It's the sort of team we can offer to anyone.

Your nearest Midland manager will be delighted to talk over any problems you may have, without obligation, of course.

Almost certainly, the Midland can help.

Midland Bank
A Great British Bank.



Derek Sawyer,
Regional Director.
Leader of the
Midland's team in
his area; is always
available for top
level decisions!

Donald Hart,
Manager.
In close touch with
Mr. Dale. Previous
extensive exper-
ience of foreign
work has provided
valuable insight into
the special Banking
problems associ-
ated with exports.

David Wilson,
Second Officer.
Supervises the
branch accounting,
safe custody, securi-
ty and foreign work
and deals with the
day-to-day problems
of visitors to this
holiday area.

Keith Ibbetson,
Foreign Clerk.
Handles the heavy
'Dale' foreign bill
work and the con-
siderable foreign
exchange require-
ments of customers
travelling abroad.

Lesley Marshall,
Cashier.
A popular cashier
with several years
experience of help-
ing with the cash
requirements of all
the customers of
the branch.

Linda Bean,
Statement.
Responsible for book-
keeping operations
and the ever
increasing standing
order payments
at the branch.

Nuclear power for ships 'can be cheaper than oil'

BY DAVID FISHLOCK, SCIENCE EDITOR

FRESH BID to interest the nuclear ship would still be more S. maritime world in nuclear expensive to build than an oil-propulsion was launched in fired vessel, and that its non- Washington yesterday by the nuclear running expenses would be greater, officials asserted. Wilcox, U.S. General Electric, these would be more than those of the U.S. Maritime Administration. By fuel economies for ships greater than \$80,000 ship. A saving Officials claimed that a nuclear ship as great as \$5m. A saving system could now be claimed by Mr. Samuel It that would be cheaper than Kalesck, an executive of Babcock & Wilcox in propelling vessels of cock and Wilcox. 600 shaft horsepower and up. It would consist of a reactor, described as a 'fifth generation version.'

Five nuclear tankers, he estimated, could do the work of eight oil-fired tankers, with a saving of \$1m. and civil nuclear vessel in fuel costs amounting to \$5m. to \$6m. a year. At least 25 While admitting that the vessels of more than \$80,000 ship

were already under construction or on order around the world.

The briefing, for shipping industry executives, is the first of four to be held around the U.S. in a new effort to arouse interest in nuclear propulsion.

So far, it has produced no convincing evidence that nuclear propulsion offers margins great enough to offset the much greater lead time required for the construction of a nuclear vessel—several years longer than shipowners are accustomed to.

The British Government, in a report published earlier this year, concluded that nuclear marine propulsion was not yet economic.

Quantity surveyor stresses role in financial management

BY DAVID WALKER

OPLE WHO regard quantity surveyors as men who only count bricks are living in a past very different from the sophisticated and highly geared present, said Colin Wheeler, a chartered quantity surveyor, at a meeting of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, last night.

He was sharing a platform with Roger Ferrand of The Law and Company, at a meeting on the Quantity Surveyor and Financial Management.

Mr. Wheeler urged clients to make it clear from the start, not only in the K-way through the project, who attached the responsibility for controlled expenditure to.

Referring to clients appointing their quantity surveyor directly, Mr. Wheeler said that with the wider recognition of the quantity surveyor's role, there has been a tendency for contractors to feel they have a traditional buffer between themselves and client. The appointment of the quantity surveyor, he said, "leads to a waste of time and money."

"The development of financial

management techniques has no doubt done a great deal to foster this tendency," he maintained, but just as with architects and quantity surveyors, there were traumas to be experienced with contractors which were understandable.

Earlier, Mr. Roger Ferrand had suggested the need for the extension of professional co-operation, so as to ensure cost was kept in the original budget.

Fortunately, the quantity surveyor is able to keep the entire job constantly under review, and his detailed knowledge of every aspect enable him to appreciate the implications of actions of others.

"In a sense he is also independent in that he is not directly involved in design, or supervision or making decisions, and is therefore less likely to find himself in dispute or disagreement within the professional team or with the contractor.

"This makes it easier for him to exercise financial management responsibilities as he will not have to monitor his own work or

Presentations to-day of housing design awards

BY OUR ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

EDALS and diplomas will be presented to-day to 16 designers of the winning schemes in this year's Award Scheme for Good Design in Housing. The awards will be made by Mr. Peter Walker, Secretary for the Environment, at the Royal Institute of British Architects. Diplomas will also be presented to those who commanded and built the schemes. An additional 18 schemes have been highly commended.

The awards are promoted in collaboration with the RIBA to encourage a high standard of design, layout and landscaping in new housing. The 271 entries were assessed under two heads:

On the role of the leader of the professional team in construction, Mr. Wheeler remarked: "The architects are over conscious of their unquestionable captaincy of the team... and they look upon the quantity surveyor as a potential threat to the autonomy of the architect."

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"This makes it easier for him to exercise financial management responsibilities as he will not have to monitor his own work or

Building chiefs anxious over training plans

BY ELSBETH GANGUIN

THE FEDERATION of Master of the CITB, surely underlines its concern to Mr. Peter Carr, Secretary for Employment, about the delay in announcing the Government's intentions on the future of the industrial training boards. This is causing the industry considerable concern, it said.

In its letter to Mr. Carr, the federation recalls that a review is foreseen in the Queen's speech. "Since then the Construction Industry Training Board, in particular, has undergone a series of crises which have only created indecision and reduced morale."

Organisations within the industry were also affected because lack of knowledge of government intentions makes it difficult for them to arrive at decisions regarding the future of training within the industry." Unrest had been increased by recent public statements from the chairman of the CITB that they had no knowledge what Government proposals were likely to be made, nor even in such proposals were to be expected.

To us this indicates that, if review is now taking place on industrial training, it is being done without consultation with CITB or any of the major organisations within the industry. If this assumption is correct in such procedure would be a mistake. The turmoil in the building industry over the past two years, based on the activities

of the HIGHLANDS and Islands Development Board intends to spend about £50,000 on servicing and landscaping a 15-acre industrial estate at Muir of Ord, Ross-shire, next to the A9 trunk road.

"There is increasing interest by industrialists in the Highland area, and Easter Ross is perhaps one of the region's most attractive locations for a wide range of industries," said a spokesman yesterday.

"The sites—there are about ten of them—will be fully serviced, ready for lease and the immediate construction of factories," the announcement added.

The Board bought the site last November as part of its effort to safeguard employment following the liquidation of the contractors Duncan Logan. Since then, five acres have been leased to two companies employing 36 people between them.

Jumbo jet flights top 210m. miles

TO FILL the gap in the ranks of supervisors requiring specialist training to meet the growth of the glass-reinforced plastics industry, the Rubber and Plastics Processing Industry Training Board has published a booklet entitled "Guide Lines for the Training of Supervisors in the GRP Industry."

It sets out the level of supervisory skills and the specific ability which the supervisor in a smaller company requires to control and lead operations responsible to him.

It touches also on the degree of technical expertise which he should have beyond that currently employed in his company processes.

The booklet makes the point that training can be carried out in the company, but it also includes a list of training establishments.

Jumbos are now serving about 70 cities in 35 countries. Total orders at the end of September stood at 207 aircraft.

OBITUARY

Mr. J. Alan Thompson dies at 53

MR. J. ALAN THOMPSON, chairman and managing director of Woolcombers (Holdings), the largest combing-topmaking group in the world, died suddenly on Tuesday while on a business trip to Israel. He was 53.

Last May, he was appointed to the Board of Ilkleyworth Morris, which has been increasing its shareholding in Woolcombers in recent months, as vice-chairman. At the same time, he moved from being vice-chairman of Woolcombers, a post he had held since 1964, to chairman of the company.

He was also chairman of the Woolcombing Employers' Federation since 1963, and also of the IWT Combers' Group. His name will be linked with a policy of acquisitions by Woolcombers starting with Isaac Holden in 1963 and culminating with the takeover of its main competitor, the Aire Wool Group, late last year.

CESS MOTIVATION INSTITUTE SEEKS DISTRIBUTION

CESS MOTIVATION INSTITUTE (SMI) is the world's largest division of Motivation, Personal Development, Sales Training and Management Development programs. These dual-sensory programs, consisting of printed texts, recordings, and cassette tapes are used especially by individuals, business organizations of all sizes, in all areas of activity, and in government agencies.

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MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR PUBLICLY HELD COMPANY LISTED IN THE O-T-C MARKET

Flexible pollution policy needed says CBI adviser

BY DAVID WALKER

FLEXIBLE policies on pollution control to ensure maximum benefit at minimum cost were urged in the most economic and satisfactory manner," Mr. Biggs continued.

Presenting a paper on pollution prevention and the production engineer at Prodeccon 71, the annual conference on production engineering, economics and technology held by the Production Engineering Research Association, at Melton Mowbray, Mr. Biggs issued a warning that resources available for pollution abatement were not limitless.

There was likely to be increasing pressure in the future to abate pollution. The CBI, he assured the conference, was well aware of the need for industry to take an increasingly active part in work to contain and reduce pollution.

It had supported successive governments in enacting comprehensive legislation and was working closely with the departments involved and with enforcement authorities.

"The products of modern technology, from antibiotics to detergents and from plastics to pesticides, are all too often taken for granted, but they do contribute enormously to the national well-being," Mr. Biggs maintained.

With sound planning and an adequate knowledge of the effluents which were being disposed of together with an understanding of legal requirements, the technical capabilities and the costs involved in the statement of pollution work now being done on all sides would pay dividends in the years to come.

He emphasised it was the responsibility of management to make sure it was aware of existing legislation and also to take positive future legislation into account in long term planning.

"It is also the responsibility of management to comply with the legislation and to adopt the ahead, he said.

best practices and techniques which will enable this to be done

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BOOKS

Seeing eye

BY LORD ROBBINS

The Life of G. D. H. Cole by Margaret Cole. Macmillan, £4.50. 304 pages

This is an important account of the life and work of a man who played a significant, if not absolutely outstanding part in the intellectual and political world of our time. Wives do not always make good biographers of their husbands. But Dame Margaret is very good indeed. Herself a considerable participant in the episodes and enterprises which she describes, she builds up, with exemplary candour and detachment, a portrait and a story which must surely have permanent historical value. In one of his more humane moments, Nietzsche once defined justice as "love with seeing eyes." I have seldom read an intimate biography which better confirmed this definition.

There can be no doubt that the subject of this book was a most gifted and forceful personality. I can well remember, as a young man, listening with something like awe to his flaws less exposition of the doctrines of the guild socialism of which he was then one of the leaders. Whether you agreed with him or not—and at the time, although not later, I agreed with him very much—it was impossible not to recognise some power quite out of the ordinary.

And yet, in the final count, there is a certain sense of something lacking—a failure to achieve what these qualities might seem to have promised. Of his written work, I fancy, his *World of Labour* and his *William Cobbett* will live, the first for the vitality and verve with which he clothes the pronouncement of the near-syndicalist outlook of his youth, the second for the warmth and scholarly knowledge with which he depicts what for him was an especially sympathetic subject; and his *History of Socialist Thought* is a useful work of reference.

As for his various propagandist and political activities, it must be said that many men of lesser quality and dedication have had more impact on thought and the evolution of events. And I do not think that this was due to the fact that from time to time, he changed his practical recommendations. Most people do.

Literary lives

BY T. C. WORSLEY

Midnight Oil by V. S. Pritchett. Chatto and Windus, £2.25. 252 pages
The Blossoming World by H. E. Bates. Michael Joseph, £2.50. 182 pages

funny, too, about the young man he was in his wide-brimmed hat—his one self-conscious tribute to the "artist" he was to become—sobbing up experience at a ferocious pace and carrying on his ignorance, his lack of background and sexual shyness with as much panache as he could muster.

For the moment his writing life was engaged on landscape, which he experienced in poverty-haunted huts into the surrounding countryside. The sketches those produced caught the eye of the London editor of the *Christian Science Monitor* (that seat to which his family had longed), and Mr. Bassethorne became his patron. When he was temporarily through with Paris Mr. Bassethorne sent him to Ireland as a correspondent from where, being no journalist, he sent back what we now call colour pieces.

It was perhaps the raciness of the Dublin speech that put the young Pritchett first on to the trail of stories in that city where he was to last all his life. On this backward, compartmentalised country he is brilliant as always. After Spain, a brief spell in the States, and another in Ireland, and the *Wanderer* were almost over; there was only to be the second, Spanish expedition on foot, which produced his first book, *Midnight Oil*, and for which he received the princely advance of £23.

Midnight Oil is another piece of true autobiography in which a young man's struggle to find his identity is re-created and composed, into a satisfying whole. H. E. Bates's *The Blossoming World* is a less artful construction: it is, rather, reminiscences. But they have their rewards for the reader, too. While Pritchett was pursuing his lonely self-discovery in Paris, Dublin and Madrid, Bates's first novel had attracted the attention of some of the famous readers: Edward Garnett and Bates was soon leading the conventional literary life with its poverty, its loneliness, its occasional ups and its more frequent downs, notably among the latter two whole 150,000 word novels which he had to recognise as disasters. How much time and effort wasted that represents!

But the short story had got him a footing, too, and new novels compensated in part for the failures. Love of the country side and of his growing family provide other ameliorations together with the encouragement of literary friends like David Garnett and Rupert Hart-Davis. His book will appeal mostly to the literary, while Pritchett's is of a more general interest, since the young man he is recapturing follows an altogether less conventional route to the writing life, and it is precisely this, for all its dourness and difficulties, that gives his criticism when he does descend, so original a note.

The ear and the eye remained clear and unclouded, by influences, so that his criticism as well as his stories were to be fresh and individual, derived not from literature but from life. Gandhi's unusual techniques of persuasion puzzled other nations beside the British. This cartoon is from *The Twentieth Century* edited by Alan Bullock (Thames and Hudson, £2.50).

Family figures

Kathleen and Frank by Christopher Isherwood. Methuen, £4.50. 363 pages

Here is one of the most attractive books of the year. It is very English: that is, to get the full value out of it one needs some knowledge of—or at least an interest in—the way privileged persons in this country lived in the first third of the 20th century. Still, many people outside England, to judge by the reception of the TV *Forsyte Saga*, cannot have enough of the English *haute bourgeoisie* in their sunset. Mr. Isherwood's people aren't quite Forsytes: they are not as rich and not as tough, and one family is perceptibly more gently born. Yet to some readers they will have the appeal of Forsytes. I shan't be at all surprised if this book has a big success in the U.S.

Kathleen and Frank is a history, not a novel, but it has the psychological implications of a very good novel. It is the story of Mr. Isherwood's parents, told often in their own words, through a diary, and then kept intermittently during a very long life-time and through his letters to her all interpreted by their son's interested, gossipy, speculative mind. As a result of these interchanges and commentary, there emerges a half-concealed autobiography of Mr. Isherwood himself, much more illuminating and sympathetic than his previous attempts.

Kathleen and Frank, the mother and father, are, in the long run, interesting in their own right. But their first impact is that of their period and their class. In the complex subtleties of the upper middle class, they came from two different and non-communicating layers, each of which felt both superior and inferior to the other. Kathleen's father—something of a Barrett of Wimpole Street, and the most substantial character in the whole story, though Mr. Isherwood, whose taste is for lighter-weight though strong-willed people, doesn't get much involved with him—was a rich merchant who married the sister of a rich brewer. The rich brewer later became a politician and as a consequence a baronet.

This family, and most of their relatives, were a good deal more prosperous than the Isherwoods. It was a ruling subliminal influence. Witness the violence of his loathing of something called capitalism, his often reiterated desire to "smash the system" (my italics)—abstractions remote from the complex facts of an essentially mixed reality.

Such too must have been the origin of his quite ridiculous anti-Americanism, obviously, as Dame Margaret points out, not in the least due to inability to get on with individual Americans—an infirmity of the same social type, though not of the same beastliness, as anti-Semitism—an unconscious need for a devil somewhere. A great pity. If there had been less of this in Cole's emotional make-up, how much more reliable would have been his judgment.

Such too must have been the social impatience of Englishmen, some more lovable. They were country gentlemen (descended from Bradshaw the regicide), not specially distinguished, certainly not smart. Among other country gentlemen, they would have seemed rather humble, and they didn't go to the fashionable schools or the fashionable regiments. Still there they were, with an old country house, an entailed estate, and a considerable, if eccentric, pride of family.

Trollope would have understood very hearty pair and somehow



From the Isherwood family album: Kathleen, Christopher and Richard, November, 1912

them completely; and Mr. Isherwood was as accurate as Trollope between them.

In these minute niceties of English social notation, at least as heartier it is hard to see—ever accurate as any writer now practises—and far more so than Forster, with whom Mr. Isherwood used to be compared. Forster presumably was not married at all. For their engagement, he was interested enough to learn, whereas Mr. Isherwood knows for years. Most men, and a good many early 20th century

The Isherwood estate, as I girls, wouldn't have stood it. When at last they did break through, they were well into their thirties. Kathleen's father came to have jolly confidential chats, and so Frank had to go into the Army. He didn't really like it, he had cultivated lastest: when he and Kathleen at last married their one ambition was for him to become her duty to do. (It is strange commandant of the Army's to recall how intense these College of Music: and yet his family obligations could be a proved to be an exceptionally couple of generations ago, and not specially distinguished, certainly not smart. Among other country gentlemen, they would have seemed rather humble, and they didn't go to the fashionable schools or the fashionable regiments. Still there they were, with an old country house, an entailed estate, and a considerable, if eccentric, pride of family.

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Kathleen got tired of the argument and screwed up their will. So they married, had two sons, and whether they found great joy or not, their relation would have gone into the old age which she knew (she died at 92) and of which he was deprived. They had many satisfactions, including Christopher's bright promise.

"Dear serious people," wrote Lord Robbins recently, of his own parents. These two also were dear serious people—intelligent and aesthetic rather than intellectual, which is true of Mr. Christopher Isherwood himself. The more one reads of them and people like them, the more desirable seriousness seems, and the more its absence makes a good many of us today seem silly and played-out.

Frank was probably killed leading his battalion in an attack, but no one will ever know. It was like many deaths in that war. His last post is missing, and then believed killed. For years Kathleen again like other widow, that war, was able to retain a ghostly hope, or unable to subdue it. Finally, with a steel core of will which one can gradually see discard its wrappings as the diary continues into old age, she sat out to survive as she had to survive. She was given the consolation of her son's career. She must have found him and his books puzzling on the surface: there was a certain amount of conflict, but it sounds like the kind of conflict which is verbal and conscientious rather than the real thing. Before she died, she and both sons were contented with each other.

All the emotional entanglements of this story—there are many more than I have sketched—Mr. Isherwood affectionately scrutinises, analyses, comments on, with deftness but extreme shrewdness, the effect totally free from insipidity, because though the claws are shielded, one can just discern their tips. His greatest gift as a writer has always been an exceptional and limpid candour—he can not only speak the truth but has no conceivable barrier in the way of doing so. As with other great writers, this one has sometimes exacted a price: it can make his view of life seem altogether too easy, so placid and struggle-free as that it seems so far away from common experience.

Even in this book, in his

epilogue about his relation with his mother and his father's memory, and the Freudian gloss which he still drops into the conflict doesn't carry anything like the grit or weight of the self-accepting, shamelessly cheerful parts of the comedy. It is there that his natural wisdom rests. Fortunately, in this book there is a great deal of it. To my mind this is far and away his best work since the early Berlin

There could be no better testimony to the honesty of its builders, or to their determination to make it conform eventually to the stringent demands of the anti-pollutionists."

Although noise figures for both the Boeing 707 and DC-8 are

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State of Pernambuco Hill Samuel & Co. Limited

Guaranteed Standard 1910

Coupons will be received on any business day and must be left for an immediate cash payment.

Coupons must be handed in personally and cannot be accepted through the post.

St. Swithin's Lane, London, EC2M 1NH, B.R.U.

21st October 1971.

The post will be taken at 11 o'clock a.m.

By order of the Board.

C. W. HARRIS,
Vice-President and Secretary.

Montreal, October 19th, 1971.

C.I.A. INVESTMENTS LIMITED
Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa

DECRETAL LAW NO. 595

BRAZILIAN STEELING LOANS:
DECRETE LAW NO. 6015

N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on November 1971 from the overprinted bonds of the forms specified below may be obtained the special forms which can be obtained on application.

The post concerned and the relative

paying agents are—

State of Bahia 5% Bank of London

Gold Loan 1904 Plan of America

State of Pernambuco Hill Samuel & Co. Limited

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**GENERAL APPOINTMENTS
APPEAR TODAY
ON PAGE 31**

COMPANY NOTICES

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**GENERAL APPOINTMENTS
APPEAR TODAY
ON PAGE 31**

BOARD HEADQUARTERS

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

An exceptional career opportunity has arisen, due to internal promotion, for a young, qualified accountant in the Accountancy Executive's department situated at Linley House in the centre of Manchester.

The duties will cover a wide field and will provide a wide experience of the organisation and financial aspects of the industry.

The starting salary will be between £2,034 p.a. and £2,406 p.a. and there are excellent prospects of advancement to senior posts. NJC Conditions.

Applications on forms to be obtained from the Secretary, Norweb, Chestwood Road, Manchester M8 8BA, and returned to him by 1 November 1971. Please quote reference G.R.2.

GRATTAN WAREHOUSES LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary

WALL STREET + OVERSEAS MARKETS

MONEY + EXCHANGES

Down 12 on Mutual Fund redemptions

BY OUR WALL STREET CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE NEWS of a prime rate cut, Wall Street was hit fairly severely again to-day following news that Mutual Fund redemptions last month outpaced sales by a record \$160m, and cut the cash available to 1.7 per cent from 3.6 per cent of assets.

After firming 0.22 to \$68.65, Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped to \$55.65, for a net fall of 12.78, while the NYSE All Common Index was down 73 cents to \$32.85. Volume further expanded 3.3m, shares to 16.4m, while declines led gains by 1.03- to 32%.

There was also continued uncertainty about the Administration's Phase Two Import Gramme, Denmark's imposition of an import surcharge and international monetary questions.

In Blue Chips, General Electric were off \$1 to \$30. Swift declined \$21 to \$351. Union Carbide lost \$11 to \$401. Woolworth was down \$11 to \$381, and Eastman Kodak dipped \$1 to \$84.

Among "Glamours," Natomas fell \$9 to \$301. Levitz were down \$21 to \$334, and IBM shed \$4 to \$305. But Disney tacked on \$4 at \$100.

Corning Glass, which did not open yesterday, dropped a further \$14 to \$234.

Among issues reporting lower third quarter results, National Cash Register shed \$1 to \$304.

Studebaker Worthing lost \$1 to \$41, and Polaroid were down \$31 to \$88.

Among companies reporting higher earnings Bausch and Lomb fell \$41 to \$138, Maytag eased \$1 to \$381, and Jim Walter shed \$1 to \$402.

In Airlines TWA gained \$1 to \$241.

National Can topped the active list but fell \$4 to \$19. First National City lost \$1 to \$402, and Caterpillar Tractor declined another \$21 to \$434.

Desoto were down \$31 to \$191 in active trading.

American Cyanamid fell \$21 to \$301, and Eli Lilly gave way \$31 to \$101.

Scott Paper were down \$21 to \$211, half in regular dividend and was the subject of adverse Press comment.

The American SE Index was down 26 cents to \$42.92 in a volume of 4.28m. (4.16m.) shares. Declines led advances by a seven to two margin.

Champion Home topped the active list and lost \$11 to \$194, but STP edged up \$1 to \$19 despite its reported sharply lower profits.

Presley Development dropped \$4 to \$371. Syntex lost \$21 to \$551. Tesoro Petroleum fell \$1 to \$331, and Delta Corp. of America slipped \$11 to \$201.

OTHER MARKETS

Canada irregular Canadian Stock Markets were

in lower Bonds. Public issues lost up to 1 point.

BRUSSELS—Quiet and little changed. Petrofina further declined Frs.60 and Cie Lambert also fell back Frs.60 on profit-taking.

ACB, firms of the American Petroleum, were lower but Canadian Petrofina were maintained.

PARIS—Movements were mixed after a number of gains were erased by profit-taking.

Foods were hesitant. Stores, Constructions and Engineries irregular.

Angle-American gained ground in a generally weak Foreign sector.

Petrofina, Hoechst and ITT headed losses in Belgians, Germans and Americans.

GERMANY—Markets were lower, on private and foreign firms, but the close was above the word on professional short-covering.

Banks eased, led down by Dresdner Bank which fell DM5.0.

Leading Chemicals fell slightly, while Electricals were little changed. Audi-NSU were well maintained in Motors.

Brown Boveri and Sandoz each firmed. In irregular Financials, activity.

Banks were generally uncertain in moderate activity.

Bonds were little.

In lower Bonds, Public issues

lost up to 1 point.

INTERBOND—Recouped part of Tues day's loss.

Banks and Insurances were little changed.

State Bonds were steady.

Dollar stocks were firm. Dutch shares maintained, but German long-term.

ITALY—Market was irregularly higher. Fiat gained Lire 16 to 2,004, while Fiatelli SpA put on Lire 14 to 1,698. Suda Viscosa rose a further Lire 16 to 1,904.

Insurances tendered firmer, with Assicurazioni Generali up Lire 400 to 50,800.

Profit-taking pared recent gains in the Bond market.

STOCKHOLM—Irregular trend.

OSLO—All sectors firm.

VIENNA—Quiet but with con-

siderable demand for Permeable.

Banks and Insurances were little changed, as were Breweries.

Metals were irregular and Mines maintained.

COPENHAGEN—Mixed and

generally uncertain in moderate

Banks were generally lower.

Speculative stocks were in demand, with Green Cross

Yan high at 297, while Nippon Catalytics edged up in anticipa-

tion of good results.

Markets were up

Yen 10 to 740. Fuji Photo Film, Yen 16 to 348. Showa Oil Yen 15 to 126. Nissan Motor Yen 3 at 174, and Tokyo Electric Express Yen 4 at 174.

Fisheries and Foodstuffs were generally lower.

AUSTRALIA—Heavyweight

Mines were generally lower.

Speculatives remained neg-

ected. Oils were variable, while

Industrials were mixed.

CRA lost 11 cents to \$5.77.

Hammersley 10 cents to \$7.70, and Broken Hill South 4 cents to \$12.20.

On returns of lower ore

reserves at Broken Hill.

In Coppers, Peko Wallsend were off 6 cents to \$6.64.

WMC shed 5 cents to \$2.53 and Great Boulder eased 2 cents to \$1.08. Poseidon fell 22 cents to

14.75.

In Uraniums, Queensland Mines

were steady at \$3.70, while Kathleen rose 10 cents to \$2.70.

Fairmont put on 5 cents to 90 cents in a report of a pending

report on its Northern Territory

uranium prospect.

Sealac lost 5 cents to \$12.00.

White Creek dipped 10 cents at \$3.40.

Among Oils, NSW Oil and Gas

were 1 cent off at 22 cents after

23 cents while Magellan

gained 4 cents to \$1.42. Woodside

rose 6 cents to \$1.44.

SELEST—lost 5 cents to \$12.00.

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Among Oils, NSW Oil and Gas

STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Equities dull on small selling but end above worst
Share index down 2.8 at 412.4—British Funds resistant

ACCOUNT DEALING DATES

Option

First Declara-

Last Account

ceilings tions

Dealing Day

at: 4 Oct. 14 Oct. 15 Oct. 26

18 Oct. 28 Oct. 29 Nov. 9

31 Nov. 11 Nov. 12 Nov. 23

"New time" dealings may take place

in 5 p.m. three business days earlier.

Resistance in British Funds

for recent profit-taking ahead

of the new long "tap"

loan. GLC loan provides

the net feature.

Stock Markets

yesterday. Equities move a

relatively dismal display, the only

newsworthy sector rise being seen

in Toys which continued to attract

yours on recovery hopes.

Leading equities drifted lower all day,

the only redeeming feature being

slight rally from the lowest

levels of the day. Down 3.6 at

the Financial Times Indus-

trial Ordinary share index was

2.2 lower at 412.4. Losses

around 0.7 per cent. were

registered in the FT-Articulates

see main indices.

The Allied Breweries-Trust

buses Fortis situation and

allied's bid for Venesta kept

interest in situation stocks lively,

a quite a fair amount of profit-

making developed against the

yesterday's price backings

provided by leading issues. Selling

pressure in the latter was modest

it's short-term economic and poli-

tical doubts, the latter ahead of

Common Market vote, kept

yours on the defensive, and

day's unemployment figures

probably made for a little ner-

vousness. Markings stayed rela-

tively high at 13.39, but the

day's deterioration in the market

was illustrated by a 5.6 falls-

ratio in the FT-quoted

titles on Monday and Tuesday.

Prices were in a slight majority.

It's quietly firm

British Funds made a relatively

good showing yesterday with profit-

making helped in the after-

yours trading following news of

a 1 per cent. reduction by

Bran's Guaranty in its prime in-

rest rate to 5.1 per cent. Medium-

term stocks improved by up to 4.

in the longs, high-conpon-

notable were notables for rises of up

to 4. The shorts fluctuated

narrowly before ending a little

better in places. Dealings are due

to start in the new long "tap"

stock, Treasury 5 per cent., 2001

to day. There was a fairly

good business in Corporations,

while fresh interest developed in

Southern Rhodesians which closed

up to 2 points better.

Dealings began in Bemdale

Group 9 per cent. Convertible

Loan, 1991-96, placed at £100, the

stock opened and closed at 199.

Small sales in the absence of

any worthwhile demand lowered

the premium on investment

dollars by 4 to 194 per cent.

New Issues, Derek Crouch,

which made a successful debut on

Tuesday, closed 19 to 197.

Eagle Star down

Feature of Insurance shares was

the sharp reaction in Eagle Star

on disappointment with the half

year report; the price dipped to

450p, before ending 24p down on

balance at 446p following an

active business. William Richard

broke, while C. T. Bowring was

5 per cent. firmer at 490p.

Home Banks drifted down about

5 more initially on lack of

interest but turned better late on

the appearance of small buyers to

finish little changed on the day.

Barclays were finally 1p up at

55p, after 549p. Discount Houses

were mainly steady, although

Allen Harvey and Ross improved

another 20p to 630p on the good

interim statement.

Leading Stores continued to

close a shade better, but closed a shade

below 450p on the half-year

report, reaching 221p and closed

at 223p for a net fall of 3p.

Financial Services, including

Bank of Scotland, rose 1p to 194.

Features in Buildings remained

in the second-line stocks, with

leaders still quite stable

earlier in the day. Gifford Estates

up 12p to 165p, Page-Johnson

"A" up 1p to 194.

Highs and Lows

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F.T.—ACTUARIES SHARE INDICES

These indices are the joint compilation of The Financial Times, The Institute of Actuaries and the Faculty of Actuaries in Edinburgh

EQUITY GROUPS

GROUPS & SUB-SECTIONS

	Wednesday, Oct. 20, 1971		Price, Oct. 19	Mon. Oct. 18	Friday Oct. 15	Thurs. Oct. 14	Year ago (approx.)	Highs and Lows Index	
	Index No.	Day's Change %	Est. Div. yield %	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	Index No.	1971	Since compilation
CAPITAL GOODS GROUP (184)	185.71	-0.7	5.84	15.85	5.77	159.90	159.39	159.39	129.31 182.00 103.05 181.50 82.82
Aircraft and Components (3)	134.44	-1.1	7.18	13.51	5.55	115.70	111.98	111.91	110.33 121.14 121.14 116.40 86.40
Building Materials (29)	186.08	-0.2	4.76	21.01	3.38	156.41	156.47	156.74	167.55 167.55 166.30 170.58 126.62
Contracting and Construction (20)	273.52	0.6	5.11	19.97	2.35	275.11	276.46	277.05	278.08 197.08 197.08 195.03 253.55 278.08 84.30
Electr. (ex. Electr. Rad. & TV) (13)	273.80	-2.0	6.12	19.33	3.03	279.19	278.51	278.65	281.36 227.16 227.16 226.50 226.50 226.50 226.50
Engineering (79)	141.69	-0.3	6.72	4.43	14.08	141.61	140.77	140.99	125.18 145.28 145.28 145.26 160.85 82.80
Machine Tools (18)	64.80	-0.3	5.51	13.52	6.51	64.65	64.65	64.65	64.65 64.65 64.65 64.65 64.65 64.65
Miscellaneous (25)	133.48	-1.3	7.61	13.14	4.33	155.21	154.52	154.46	155.09 119.88 126.30 126.30 124.19 144.37 69.01
CONSUMER GOODS (DURABLE) GROUP (56)	180.70	-0.2	4.22	23.68	2.08	182.06	180.97	181.99	141.55 188.05 188.05 177.55 197.87 78.16
Electronics, Radio and TV (14)	187.88	-1.4	3.05	25.35	2.34	180.03	180.56	188.98	190.85 193.14 193.51 193.51 193.51 193.51 193.51
Household Goods (15)	207.10	+0.1	5.65	17.88	3.22	206.89	207.00	207.08	207.08 155.00 207.38 207.38 207.38 207.38 207.38
Motors and Distributors (27)	126.08	-0.4	4.12	24.27	3.44	126.58	124.88	124.88	124.51 98.08 125.91 125.91 125.91 125.91 125.91
CONSUMER GOODS (NON-DURABLE) GROUP (175)	164.00	-0.6	5.80	18.11	3.78	165.08	164.57	165.61	165.95 186.13 172.37 172.37 178.17 178.57 87.71
Breweries (21)	165.53	-0.3	5.48	18.26	3.51	165.74	165.74	167.31	190.67 143.16 165.53 165.53 165.53 165.53 165.53
Wines and Spirits (7)	166.16	+0.1	6.38	18.93	4.32	166.08	164.64	164.96	166.27 186.05 186.05 184.41 194.01 194.01 193.88
Entertainment and Catering (15)	237.92	-1.5	5.63	18.44	3.08	241.53	225.87	226.03	228.06 185.07 241.53 227.38 227.38 227.38 227.38 227.38
Food Manufacturing (24)	146.12	0.5	5.47	18.47	3.71	148.55	148.48	148.75	147.86 118.12 149.68 149.68 149.68 149.68 149.68
Food Retailing (17)	155.55	-0.3	5.13	19.45	3.24	156.98	155.76	155.85	156.88 107.74 156.00 156.00 155.55 155.55 155.55
Newspapers and Publishing (15)	183.18	-0.7	6.66	17.66	4.58	154.23	155.87	155.75	155.37 115.09 154.23 154.23 154.23 154.23 154.23
Packaging and Paper (16)	114.54	-0.3	6.74	14.84	4.54	114.77	114.14	114.43	110.45 152.27 152.27 152.27 152.27 152.27 152.27
Stores (30)	155.53	-0.8	4.59	22.80	3.05	156.83	156.78	156.94	159.70 110.19 156.83 156.83 156.83 156.83 156.83
Textiles (21)	172.53	-1.4	6.10	18.38	5.12	174.97	174.77	174.82	175.00 155.04 172.57 172.57 172.57 172.57 172.57
Tobacco (3)	214.77	-1.6	10.17	9.94	6.16	220.59	221.17	224.31	226.54 201.18 220.59 220.59 220.59 220.59 220.59
Toys and Games (6)	54.07	+4.8	0.76	155.57	2.76	51.88	49.84	48.97	48.88 57.85 60.03 60.03 60.03 60.03 60.03
OTHER GROUPS	182.31	-0.4	8.22	12.18	5.11	184.67	186.79	186.94	186.94 186.63 186.63 186.63 186.63 186.63 186.63
Chemicals (18)	183.00	-1.6	5.41	18.49	3.58	186.05	185.77	184.75	184.38 151.80 200.39 188.18 201.92 83.28
Office Equipment (10)	178.87	-0.5	5.69	27.14	1.67	178.77	177.89	177.92	177.91 152.17 178.77 178.77 178.77 178.77 178.77
Shipping (10)	323.31	-0.4	8.22	12.18	5.11	324.67	326.79	326.94	326.21 201.18 323.31 323.31 323.31 323.31 323.31
Miscellaneous (unclassified) (44)	196.15	-0.8	5.47	18.28	3.54	197.62	196.72	196.81	196.55 159.67 196.15 196.15 196.15 196.15 196.15
INDUSTRIAL GROUP (496 SHARES)	170.05	-0.8	5.46	18.34	3.58	171.37	170.71	171.12	172.20 176.31 172.20 172.20 172.20 172.20 172.20
Oil (2)	135.72	-0.5	5.85	17.06	3.74	137.26	137.81	135.67	136.40 183.14 183.00 180.74 181.55 181.55 181.55 181.55
500 SHARE INDEX	184.16	-0.7	5.51	18.13	3.60	185.51	184.95	185.32	186.21 146.62 180.63 182.46 182.73 182.73 182.73 182.73

	Wednesday, Oct. 20	Tuesday, Oct. 19	Monday, Oct. 18	Friday, Oct. 15	Thurs. Oct. 14	Wed. Oct. 13	Tuesday, Oct. 12	Year ago (approx.)	1971	Since compilation
	Index No.	Yield %	Index No.	Yield %	Index No.	Yield %	Index No.	Index No.	High	Low
FINANCIAL GROUP (121)	172.46	-0.4	—	—	2.82	175.06	173.34	174.39	176.11	122.61 174.99 119.73 175.49 89.38
Banks (6)	172.31	-0.1	8.01	18.48	2.95	178.35	178.88	174.41	177.00 189.94 101.66 188.84 99.29	
Discount Houses (6)	201.85	+0.2	—	—	5.92	201.56	201.41	201.03	201.98	151.28 201.56 201.56 201.56 201.56 201.56
Hire Purchase (6)	204.74	-0.5	4.33	23.16	3.57	192.87	192.78	192.87	192.78 192.78 192.78 192.78 192.78 192.78	
Insurance (Life) (9)	151.10	-0.2	—	—	3.02	151.40	153.05	156.80	157.93	125.99 157.93 157.93 157.93 157.93 157.93
Insurance (Composite) (9)	157.05	-0.9	—	—	5.23	158.23	157.94	158.05	158.05 158.05 158.05 158.05 158.05 158.05	
Insurance (Brokers) (11)	174.00	-0.3	5.07	19.72	2.63	175.52	174.04	175.71	175.76 121.85 175.71 175.71 175.71 175.71 175.71	
Investment Trusts (20)	189.01	-0.2	3.01	35.21	2.81	189.40	189.27	189.01	189.20 156.15 189.20 189.20 189.20 189.20 189.20	
Merchant Banks, Issuing Houses (14)	177.82	-0.5	—	—	8.19	178.75	180.40	181.25	182.87 127.22 182.87 182.87 182.87 182.87 182.87	
Property (31)	382.45	-0.6	2.74	35.47	2.82	223.74	223.14	223.43	224.66 157.55 223.74 223.74 223.74 223.74 223.74	
Miscellaneous (9)	192.31	-0.7	5.35	18.68	3.90	193.75	190.98	190.59	191.13 195.75 192.73 192.73 192.73 192.73 192.73	
ALL-SHARE INDEX (621 SHARES)	181.15	-0.6								

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Lombard U.S. could now be sowing a whirlwind

By C. GORDON TETHER

THE U.S. was under no compulsion to settle this month of the year since it remained the world's largest market and would suffer less from trade controls than others, said Mr. Connally, President Nixon's vociferous economic mouthpiece over the weekend. It was the latest of the series of "we couldn't care less" because we are almost immune" U.S. pronouncements on the international monetary crisis with which Washington has bombarded the rest of the world and which have now come to constitute the most worrying feature of the situation of all.

Nothing, after all, is so calculated to put up the backs of America's trading partners as behaviour on the part of the U.S. which is both bullying and irresponsible—a description that can fairly be applied to Mr. Connally's statement seeing that it completely disregards the fact that any prolonged delay in settling the row could have devastating consequences for those many countries that have no say in the matter at all.

And what makes this the more serious is that, by deciding ruthlessly to exploit the flouting of international economic law and order for offensive purposes, the Americans have both invited other countries to retaliate and made it almost respectable for them to do so.

Rose-tinted

At the Press conference held at the close of the two-day meeting of OECD's Working Party 3 earlier this week, Dr. Engenier, the chairman, asserted that the exchange rate adjustments needed to bring the U.S. balance of payments back into equilibrium would take place in a much better world economic climate than was generally supposed. He supported this optimistic prediction with OECD Secretariat forecasts.

The fact that growth has recently petered out in nearly all the leading countries in response to adverse forces that appear to be of much more than passing significance suggests that the crystal ball used for this operation must have been rose-tinted in any case. What would seem to be altogether undeniable is that there is next to no possibility of things turning out in this convenient way if the present struggle over exchange rates and the U.S. surcharge is allowed to drag on for any length of time.

Frightening

It is significant that the Japanese have already found it necessary drastically to revise their growth expectations for 1972 and that the picture that then emerged was so frightening that they immediately announced a massive new pump-priming operation. Other countries have given similar expression to their feeling that the world economic climate is bound to deteriorate. And this has happened before there has been any reaction to speak of to the U.S. decision to hit at other countries' exports through its import surcharge.

Yet the danger of such counter-measures developing on a world-wide scale increases markedly with every day that passes. The French aerospace industry has now presented the EEC with a strong case for imposing a "matching tariff" on American aircraft exports to Europe. And though the decision of Denmark's new Government to impose 10 per cent surcharge on all imports is not expressly intended to offset the American one, it seems highly probable that it was to some extent inspired by it.

Inspiration

As I said earlier, the way in which the U.S. has used the surcharge has not only invited retaliation. It has also made such kicking over the traces respectable. If not glorious. Previously, it had always been accepted that disregard of the international rule-book of this kind was something of which a country should at least be a little ashamed. The Americans, however, are actually using the surcharge as a stick with which to beat the rest of the world. Given such a lead it is hardly to be wondered at that our Copenhagen correspondent should have reported that the Danish Government is well aware of the illegality of what it is doing but thinks that "it must put Denmark first."

The U.S. may feel that its economic geography is such that it need not be much of a nuisance to be inconvenienced by the whirlwind it has set blowing across the world. Yet those who sow the wind are apt to reap the whirlwind. And whirlwinds are a very different proposition.

THE LEX COLUMN

Spillers' remaining recovery scope

On Tuesday the Dow Jones index broke down through its 1971 upturn as calculated on an hourly arithmetic point and figure chart, but ended rallying. Yesterday it started lower—perhaps on the news of \$186m. of net redemptions for the mutual fund industry in September—and carried on a downward despite prime rate cut news. The mutual fund figures conflict with record lows in odd lot short sales ratios.

Spillers
Spillers' interim performance—£3.7m. pre-tax against £1.89m. and £3.15m. in the second half of 1970—was in line with most recent expectations, and the recovery areas were predictable enough too. Last year, the combination of higher raw material prices with trading down slammed petfoods into the red: this time, Spillers have scored with its lower priced brands, meat costs are down a little, guess for the year may be £3.4m. before pensions, etc. along with the promotion bill, profits somewhere in the region £1m. The strength of ES still leaves a prospective p/e of 14/10p a share this year, and

third of the half-time improvement flour milling, with stable costs and better prices, probably accounts for rather more than that, and most of the rest comes from animal feeds.

The problem for the current half to January is the impact of the levy system on cereal costs. In fact, Spillers' home grown content overall is as high as 40 per cent, forward buying has provided a buffer at least until this month, and overall raw material costs need not be that much greater than last year's high levels.

The bread price question has switched from the political to the tactical, with ABF apparently hungry for market share and substantial wage claims in the air. Yet there was an improving trend in group profits through the first six months, there is further recovery from petfoods—where dog food sales seem to be picking up—interest rates are at 20p a share against charges should be lower ex the 15p, on a drop in the under- postal strike and a reasonable writing loss from £5m. to £4.5m. at one time before they rallied to 46p, down 21p. In fact it has been clear for some time that the industry was not looking for a radical turnaround in U.K. motor results this year—the main recovery dynamic for ES—so the earnings estimates are substantially where they were at say 20p a share against 25p, down 5p. 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